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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

JUNE 10th, 1976, ISSUE No. 21

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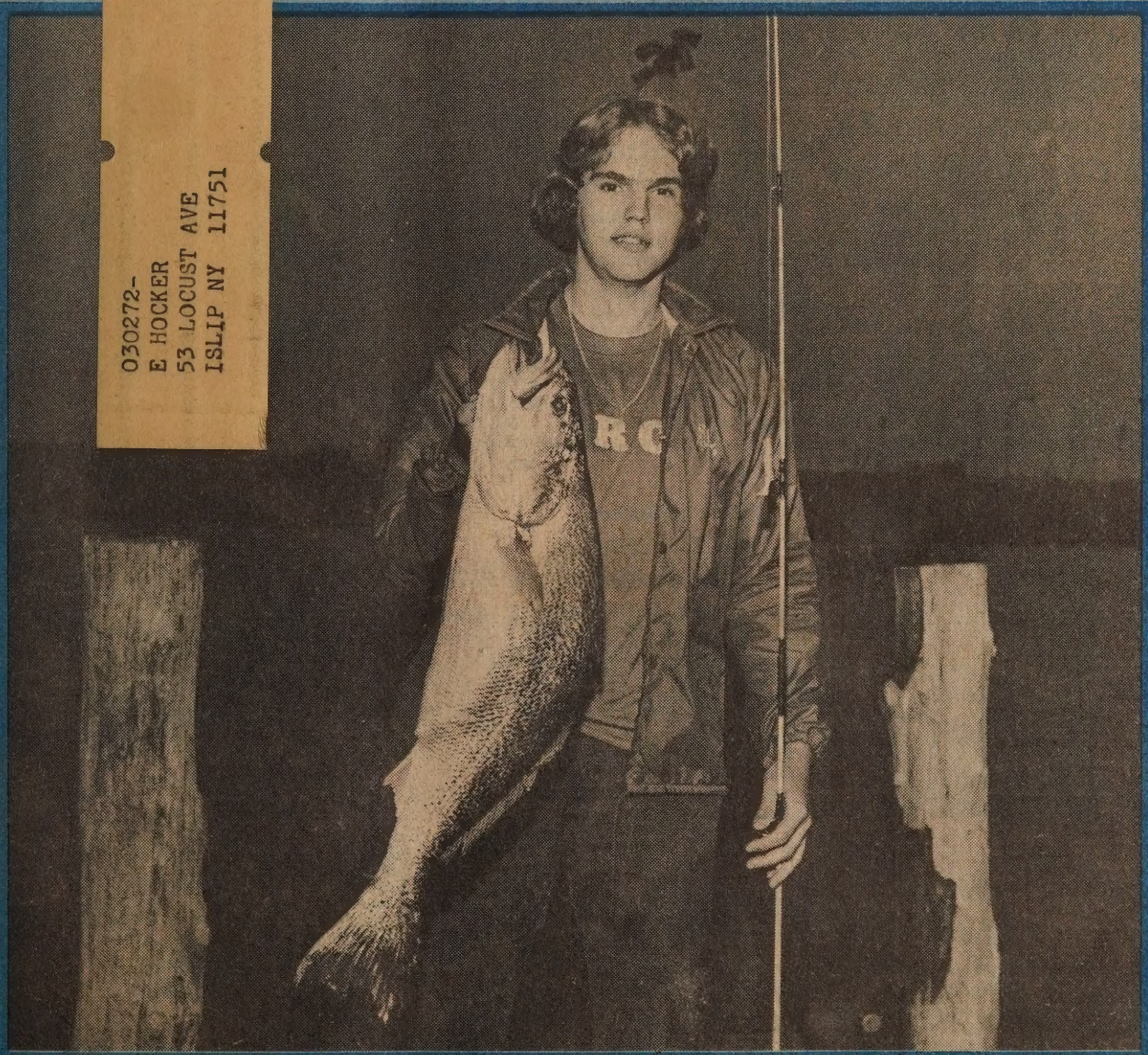

JETTY FISHING

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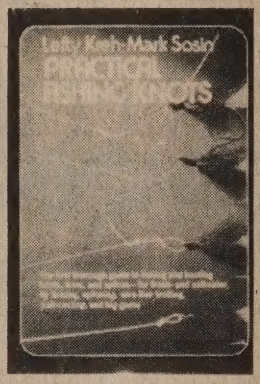

Practical Fishing Knots

by L. Kreh & M. Sosin

A thorough and practical guide to knots, lines and splices for all kinds of fishing in freshwater, saltwater, fly fishing, spin fishing, big game and even boating knots. Tying directions use sleak drawings and photos. A must for every serious angler. 176 pages.

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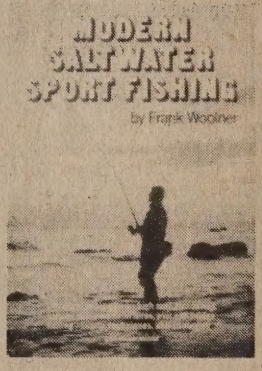

Modern Saltwater Sportfishing

by Frank Woolner

Salt Water Sportsman's famed editor has put it all together in one complete, entertaining and educating volume. From knots and terminal tackle to surf, boating, bay and pier techniques. From flounder and fluke to stripers, snook and tuna, this book has it all. Woolner's easy to read style will make this one of the favorites on your book shelf. 365 pages, illustrated.

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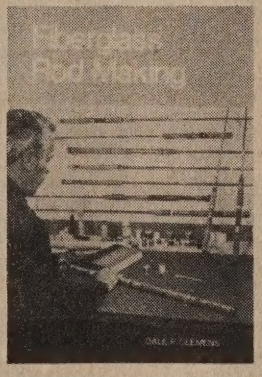

Fiberglass Rod Making

by Dale Clemens

It's all here—every conceivable aspect of building fiberglass rods from the lightest trout wand to the largest big game trolling rod. Now you can make your own custom rods, tailored exactly to the kinds of fishing you do, to your physique, to the rod action you prefer, and to your taste in decoration and finish. 190 pages of step-by-step instructions. 196 photos & diagrams.

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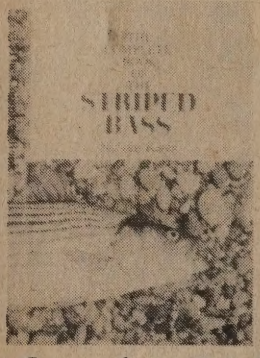

The Complete Book of Striped Bass

by Nicholas Karas

Practical fishing techniques for striped bass from soup to nuts. From the surf, bank, pier, jetty, bridge, boats. By trolling, casting, chumming and bait. Day and night! On conventional, spinning and fly rods. Setting up a bass boat and beach buggy. 365 pages, photos and diagrams.

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

VOLUME 11, No. 21 JUNE 10th, 1976

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About the Cover—

Gary Benkert of Syosset is shown here holding a 13 pound 8 ounce weakfish caught on 6 lb. test and is a pending tie for the IGFA 6 lb. test world record. The weak was caught on May 10th, on a white Lupo Shrimp in Great South Bay.

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Edward's Discount, Riverhead

News Releases

FREE BUMPER STICKERS

A bumper sticker which reads, "Protect Our Marine Waters," will be given out free to all donators of 50 pounds or more of newspapers or magazines, tied or untied at the Marine Environmental Council Recycling Drive on Saturday, June 19th at the Pathmark Parking Lot on Merrick Road in Seaford. The hours will be from 10 a.m. to 4 P.M.

The recycling drives, which are held on the third Saturday of every month, enable MECLI to print flyers and a quarterly newsletter to help keep the public aware of how they can aid in protecting our waters. Audio-visual programs are also developed and lent out by MECLI with these recycling funds.

In addition to newspapers, aluminum and old car batteries are also recycled. Support the environmental movement by contributing your paper and receive a sticker noting your concern.

DEC ASKS FISHERMEN'S AID

Donald J. Middleton, Long Island Regional Director for the State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) today asked fishermen on Long Island to help DEC in a new striped bass tagging program. The DEC biologists are placing orange tags on striped bass in the Hudson River and western Long Island Sound. Fishermen who find tagged stripers should send the tag with information about the date, location and method of capture, the weight and length measured from the tip of the snout to the fork in the tail to the DEC's office, Building 40, SUNY, Stony Brook 11794. For each tag returned the finder will be paid one dollar and will receive a sport about where and when the fish was tagged and its size.

Starting this spring, DEC biologists will be tagging striped bass of all ages and sizes in bays of the lower Hudson River and several bays of Western Long Island Sound between the Throgs Neck Bridge and Smithtown Bay. The project is an effort to determine the nursery grounds, migration, and fishing pressure of the striper. A prime objective of the effort will be to learn more about the extent of the Hudson River fishery and the number of striped bass it contributes to Long Island waters.

Successful striped bass fishermen should examine each fish they catch for a tag which is attached under the first dorsal fin. If a tag is found you should report the find to the DEC. For more info call Bryon H. Young at 516-751-7900.

JONES BEACH AND CAPTREE STATE PARKS 1976 FISHING CLINIC SCHEDULE

...Will be sponsored by The Long Island State Park and Recreation Commission, The Captree Bait Station, Jones Beach Fishing Piers and Captree Fisherman's Walk. At Jones Beach at 10 A.M. and Captree at 1:00 P.M.

June 26th will be bay fishing for weaks and kings; July 3rd Pest fishes and what you should know about them; July 10th Natural Marine Baits Part 1; July 17th Natural Marine Baits part 2; (2 week recess) August 14th Bluefish and Snapper fishing; August 21st Surf Fishing Part 1; August 28th Surf Fishing part 2; and September 4th Striped Bass fishing.

FREE LURE WITH CATALOG

Rebel's 1976 catalog is now available. It features 12 pages of information on the entire line of Rebel products for the fishermen...famous Rebel lures, Rebel trolling motors, and Rebel's newest product...the Bass 'n Box. The descriptive information on each Rebel lure includes fishing instructions, the running depth of the lure and its available colors.

As the reader wanders through the pages of this latest catalog, he will find a complete description of each of the famous Rebel lures and the chart of the nearly 40 proven fish producing Rebel colors. Too, he'll have an opportunity to see just a few letters and snapshots taken from the big Rebel scrapbook in which are placed the thousands of letters and pictures fishermen send Rebel each year from all corners of the fishing world.

Consumers sending $1.00 for the Rebel catalog will also receive a sample of one of the latest Rebel lures in a proven area tested color. To receive the catalog and free Rebel lure, fishermen can send $1.00 to Rebel Catalog, P.O. Box 1587, Fort Smith, Ark. 72901.

DICK MERMON TO LECTURE AT NO. BROOKHAVEN SPORT FISHERMEN'S CLUB

The board of directors of the North Brookhaven Sport Fishermen's Club are happy to announce that it's next meeting which will be held on Monday Night, June 14th at 9:00 P.M. shall have popular writer, author, free-lance photographer and lecturer Dick Mermon appearing to lecture on "Natural Baiting of Striped Bass."

All island sport fishermen are invited to attend to hear Dick speak. Admission is free, and coffee will be served after the meeting. This meeting is to be held in the Mt. Sinai Community House, located in Mt. Sinai on North Country Road just a ¼ mile east of the Mt. Sinai

Firehouse.

For more info call in the Lake Ronkonkoma area 588-6080 and in the Rocky Point area 744-6260.

The N.B.S.F.C. was founded in 1969 and received its charter from the New York State in 1970, as a non profit club association.

Chum Lines

WHAT ABOUT JAMAICA BAY?

I was very happy to learn of the 200 mile limit that will soon be in effect. I have been a subscriber for four years and have remained silent. It is time I came forward with my complaint that I have been holding back for all these years.

There are two creeks in Jamaica Bay that have been polluted and are still being abused. This is probably the main cause of the pollution in this area. They are Bergen Basin near Kennedy Airport and Fresh Creek at Starett City.

The water is so alive that it bubbles with a green tinge and smells frightful. At Bergen Basin I made the mistake of anchoring my boat. It took half an hour to clean the sludge and oil off my anchor not to mention the wide variety of sewage.

I wish somebody would do something about this pollution in Jamaica Bay for once. If you would like an inspection for yourself, please contact me. I would be very happy to give you a tour. **Eric Zeiner, Brooklyn 212-235-6998.**

READER SCORES WITH BLACKFISH

Having read your most recent article in the 5/13/76 issue of the Long Island Fisherman (Blackfish Special) I grabbed my gear and headed for the local fish market. Heeding your advice purchased a dozen raw clams and went to the Hempstead Harbor piers. Again, putting into practice many of the fishing hints from your article, I proceeded to catch 6 blackfish between 1½ and 3½ pounds in less than an hour.

Thanks again for your verbal support from a loyal subscriber of your magazine. **Charles Riekers, New Hyde Park.**

FROM THE DECKS OF THE SHOTGUN TWO

An old down Easterner had told me a way of marking a school of bluefish before the days of recorder's and other machinery.

Forgetting about the old salt's words until a few days ago when mackerel fishing(being early this season) we decided to put our bluefish marking method to work on these fish.

It is really simple. All you need is some balloons, preferably small, and 25 feet of light mono. Blow up a balloon and tie it on one end of the mono. As soon as you start catching mackerel, tie the line to the fish just before the tail and release him. The fish will go back to the school and the trailing balloon will mark the school. When the fish move, it will be a simple job of spotting them and moving back on to the school.

BOTTOM FORMATION FAN

As an avid reader of L.I.F. I wish to comment on Scott Simons article—Advanced Weakfishing Part II.

His bottom descriptions are terriffic and I have been using these same locations for fluke (as well) very successfully. We anchor on a slope or drop, cast a killie on the flat and let it drop into the slope where the fluke are waiting. Bingo! They hit. All predator fish will take bait in these positions when water is moving off the flats—from high to low—. **Howard Sternberg, Oceanside**

BLESSING OF THE FLEET

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 22-2 (Northport) is sponsoring a Blessing of the Fleet in Northport Harbor on Saturday, June 12th, 1976 beginning at 11 a.m. (June 13th, rain date.)

There will be a procession of vessels past the Northport Dock where clergymen will be present to bless them. Also in the reviewing stand will be the Mayor of Northport, Commodores of the Area Yacht Clubs, the Commanding Officer, Eatons Neck Coast Guard Station and other local dignitaries. A 41 foot Coast Guard Cutter will be the lead vessel.

Anyone wishing to participate in the procession of boats should have their vessel in Northport Harbor off Centerport Yacht Club before 11 a.m. on June 12th.

Persons wishing to observe the event may do so from the Northport Village Dock.

The Northport Flotilla, 2-2, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will provide regatta patrols and will conduct free safety inspections of those vessels requesting one before and after the ceremony.

SHARK FISHERMEN!

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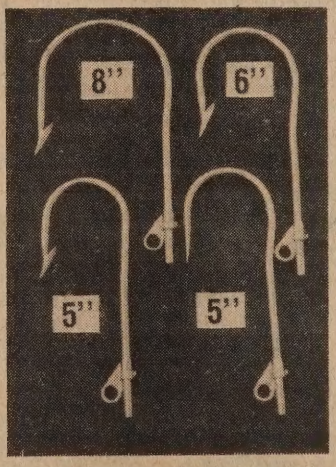

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CLUB NEWS

NOTICE FROM FREEPORT TUNA CLUB TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

Because of the enthusiastic response to last years Tournament, the Freeport Fishing Festival Committee has decided to schedule the event this year on August 21st, 1976.

We offer, Free Docking facilities for two nights at Long Creek Marina, Free Bait, Free party, free raffles, free tournament patches and insignias. We will award custom built fishing rods and reels for prizes in various fish categories. Entries will be limited to those who participated last year, and if any openings remain after May 15, 1976 they will be open to the public. The Freeport Tuna Club will not participate as a club, but its members will be devoting their time and efforts to seeing that all the Contestants are taken care of and having a good time.

There is no way to describe the feeling that developed at last years Tournament except to say 'you should have been there!' The Captain's Meeting ran way overtime because of all the good natured kidding and the horsing around. The sight of all those fishing machines in the setting of the beautiful Long Creek Town Marina was out of a picture book! "Psychs Twist" gave up his entire days fishing to tow another disabled contestant home—six hours. The Committee was so impressed with this sportsmanship they awarded him a trophy. The party that night was the fitting climax for a great tournament. Who can ever forget the sight of fifteen of the tuna clubs most illustrious members shucking thousands of clams; our wives bringing in their favorite and best dishes and serving behind huge trays of Hams, Turkeys, Roast Beef, Lasagna and salads of all kinds, etc, etc, etc...;the nautical decorations and best of all the smiles and warmth that greeted each contestant!

GREAT SOUTH BEACH MOBILE SPORTFISHERMEN

The Great South Beach Mobile Sportfishermen held their annual elections in April this year. Elected were:

President—Jim Watson; 1st Vice Pres.—George Sieber; 2nd Vice Pres.—Harold Babcock; Treas.—Beverly Hondup; Secretary—Dave Niebur; Board of Directors—James Hoolan; Fletcher Bedell; Andy Noia; Doug Mayranen; charles VanValkenburgh; George Ehmann; Frank Obermeyer; George Siebert; Dale Oles; Joseph Henthorne; Richard McDowell; and Past President—Thomas Richmond.

NEW CLUB BEING FORMED

The Atlantic Beach Sportsmans Club Inc., has recently been formed by a group of men interested in Hunting and Fishing as well as Protection of our environment. The club's officers are President—Barry Kurtz; Vice-President—Warren Sicherman; Treasurer—Bob Beck; Secretary—Michael Calendrillo; and Public Relations Man—Frank Spinella. We are seeking new members and those interested can obtain info by writing to P.O. Box 321, Atlantic Beach, New York 11509.

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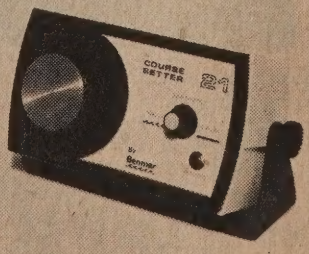

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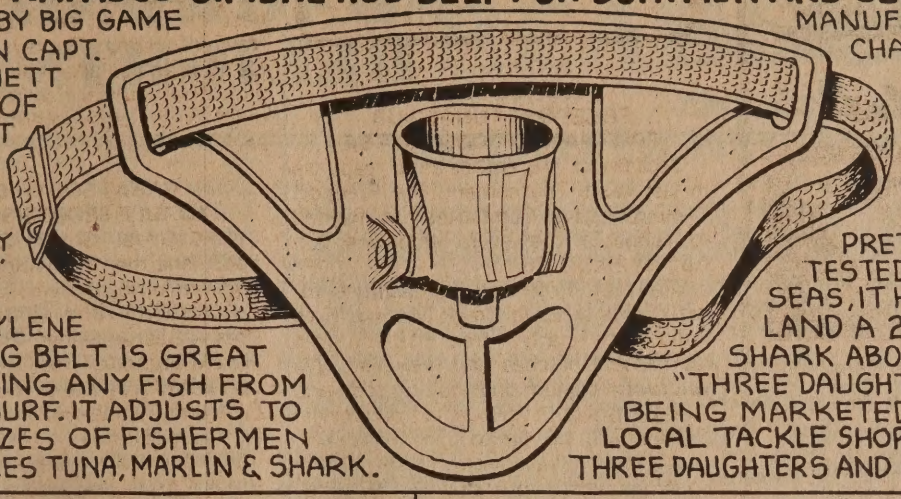
TACKLE NEWS & TIPS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

THE NEW NAFABCO GIMBAL ROD BELT FOR BOATMEN AND SURFCASTERS

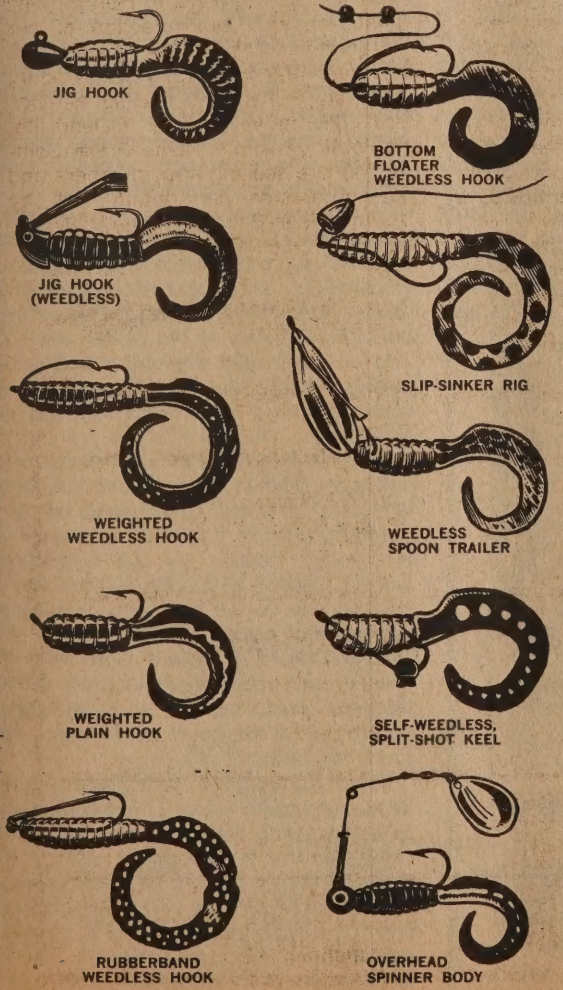
DESIGNED BY BIG GAME FISHERMAN CAPT. CHAS. FISCHETT AND MADE OF HIGH IMPACT UNBREAKABLE PLASTIC, THIS "BELLY HARNESS" WITH ITS POLYPROPYLENE SUPPORTING BELT IS GREAT FOR FIGHTING ANY FISH FROM BOAT OR SURF. IT ADJUSTS TO FIT ALL SIZES OF FISHERMEN AND HANDLES TUNA, MARLIN & SHARK.



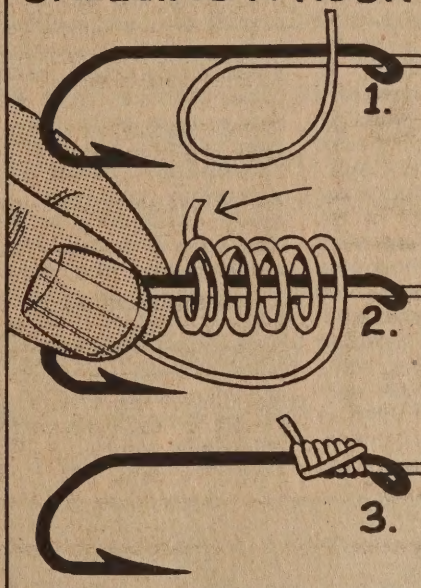
MANUFACTURED BY CHARLIE'S NAT'L. FABRICATING CO., COPIAGUE, L.I. THIS BELT IS CREAMY WHITE, PLASTIC SLICK AND PRETTY TO BEHOLD. TESTED ON THE HIGH SEAS, IT HELPED CHARLIE LAND A 280 LB. MAKO SHARK ABOARD HIS BOAT "THREE DAUGHTERS". IT IS BEING MARKETED THROUGH LOCAL TACKLE SHOPS BY CHARLIE'S THREE DAUGHTERS AND COSTS $9.95.

CURLYTAIL PLASTIC LURES

MADE THEIR DEBUT IN FRESHWATER IN 1973 AND ARE AS EFFECTIVE AS THE PLASTIC SHRIMP IS IN SALTWATER. SHOWN BELOW ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO RIG CURLYTAILS.



SNELLING A HOOK THE EASY WAY



1. PASS MONOFILAMENT LEADER THROUGH HOOK EYE AND MAKE A LOOP.

2. PINCH LOOP TO HOOK WITH THUMB AND FORE-FINGER. MAKE SIX TURNS AROUND SHANK AND BRING END UP THROUGH THE LAST LOOP.

3. PULL LEADER TIGHT.

FLASHLIGHT PRESERVATION

METAL FLASHLIGHTS, AS WELL AS METAL CONTACTS ON PLASTIC ONES, DO NOT LAST LONG AROUND SALTWATER DUE TO CORROSION FROM MOISTURE AND SALT SPRAY.

TO PREVENT THIS, PLACE FLASHLIGHT IN A PLASTIC BAG AND SEAL END WITH A TIE OR RUBBER BAND. THE LIGHT CAN BE TURNED ON AND OFF THROUGH THE PLASTIC. A COUPLE OF RUBBER BANDS AROUND THE GRIP KEEP IT FROM SLIPPING THROUGH WET FINGERS.

Surf Side with Vito Orlando

SHAGWONG DELIGHTS

When the name Shagwong is mentioned in fishing circles, the thoughts of veteran surfmen are instinctively turned toward Montauk in the fall. This is quite understandable, as those late autumn tides often produce many fine bass. However, one fact that is often overlooked is that Shagwong and the springtime also have something in common, "big bass." If the catches of the past few years, and in particular last year, are any indication of what lies ahead, then this season should witness the best fishing yet.

Last year, during the first week of June, a huge body of stripers invaded the Montauk area. These beautiful gamefish were there to dine on an abundant supply of sand eels which were gathered along this famous shoreline. The first few days of the month showed many respectable fish being taken. Then, on Thursday June 5th, during one of the worst electrical storms of the young season, a school of giant bass, who had for days been drifting plug casters with their elusive tactics, decided to blitz the beach. Plugs were shattered, hooks straightened, and lines parted as fish up to forty-nine pounds came sliding onto the sand. That night the call went out and within hours, excited fishermen driving through rain soaked streets, converged on the Shagwong area. (remember Fritz). What took place during the next few weeks is now ancient history. Each night's tide produced its share of cow bass, as these heavyweights were consistently being coaxed from their salty environment. Not one day went by that John Kronich, proprietor of Johnnie's Bait and Tackle did not weigh in an oversized fish. This prompted Mr. Surf to exclaim "best spring run I've seen in many years."

Then on June 24th, the weakfish, who up 'till now had been appearing only sparingly in the bass catches, elected to make their bid for extinction. Huge catches of these spotted devils were being reported on every evening tide. Weaks up to fourteen pounds were being thrown into fish filled coolers by red eyed and arm weary anglers. During one night's fishing, Steve Petri, President of The Farragut Striper Club, and his surfcasting son Steve Jr. had over seventy weakfish from the Shagwong area. Steve Sr. had one fish that weighed in at thirteen and one half pounds gutted, which was caught on six pound test line. He later told me "that worlds record fish make fine table fare." In his defense though, considering the large amount of giant weakfish that cluttered his ice chest, it was a difficult chore, especially at night, to distinguish between many twelve and fourteen pound weakfish.

This fast fishing lasted until the third week in July. At that time, the fish that still had their freedom decided it was time for that annual phenomenon known as the "summer doldrums." The catches of both the bass and the weakfish began to fall off, as the fishing settled down to a slow but steady pick.

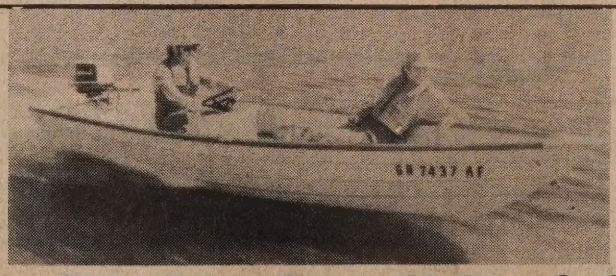
Hopefully, this account of last seasons Shagwong spring run brings back pleasant memories to most of you. For those who did not partake in this ultimate pleasure, I will attempt to lay the ground work so that this year the memories will be yours.

Shagwong Reef, which is located on the northern side of Montauk Point, is easily accessible to any beach buggy fisherman. When driving through the town of Montauk, continue along the main road toward the Lighthouse. You will come upon a sign reading East Lake Drive, make a left turn and proceed north, toward the water. At the end of this road is a parking lot and a beach buggy entrance. Turn right and follow the shoreline to the point. There is one other way to approach this beach, but I would not recommend using it until the latter part of June. The Oyster Pond, which is located between Shagwong and Rocky Point, has a nasty habit of opening up during the colder months. Depending upon the severity of the winter storms, this cut may take the entire spring to re-close itself. Avoid this avenue of approach and save yourself a few headaches.

Most anglers familiar with Shagwong will agree, that the best time to fish here is during the last three hours of the outgoing tide. At this time, a strong rip is formed, caused by the receeding waters. Caught in this rip, will be many baitfish, that earlier had been swimming in the quiet waters of Gin Beach. The bass and weakfish know this, and will be lying in the current ready to attack these helpless creatures. If this tidal stage occurs during the hours of darkness, so much the better.

When fishing here, your casts should be up-current (to the left). Allow your rig to slowly swing with the current (to the right.) As this is happening, start your retrieve, barely moving the reel handle. In this way, your lure will resemble any one of the many baitfish, fighting its way against the overpowering current. There is however, one exception to this rule.

JOHN DORY



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That is, when the wind is blowing against the flow of the water (east, northeast, southeast), you will have to speed up your retrieve a little at a time so as to give your plug that extra spark of life.

Since the majority of baitfish that frequent Shagwong in the springtime, will be on the small side (sand eels and or spearing), your plugs should likewise be small. Rebels, Red Fins, etc. are ideally suited for use here. Fill your plug bag with a mixed variety of sizes and colors of these plugs. Also make sure that you have at least one or two Rebel Windcheaters for use when greater distance is required or when the wind prohibits the use of anything lighter. Incidentally, that forty-nine pound bass mentioned earlier was taken on a plug such as this.*

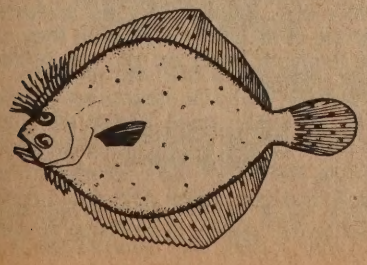
Both your rod and reel should be suited for this type of fishing. A seven or eight foot medium action casting rod, coupled with a Penn 710, Crack 200, etc, will make ideal outfits for throwing those smaller lures. Your reel should be filled (not too much) with not more than fifteen pound test. In this way you will be assured of the maximum action and distance from your plugs.

A popular way to fish this area is to begin casting near the first big rock sitting in the water. Be there as the tide enters the final three hours of its ebb. Cast for approximately ½ hour. If no luck, move into the rocky portion of the beach. Again, cast for another ½ hour. The tide should now be two hours from low water. Move again, to the location between the rocks and the point. This time, remain for 1½ hours before going to the tip and fishing the tide. By using this procedure, you will not only cover a larger section of the beach, but you will be taking the same route that the bait does on its journey seaward.

As the time is now drawing near, start preparing your boss for a few days away from the office this June. I know you won't regret it. And who knows, after a few fish are on your stringer, you may join the Shagwong Chorus, and sing that famous symphony, "Guess Whose In Again".

Good Luck and Good Fishing...!

* Editor's Note: Vito is being very modest. He turned the 49 pound bass trick and on a light stick with 10 pound test line!



ATTENTION READERS-

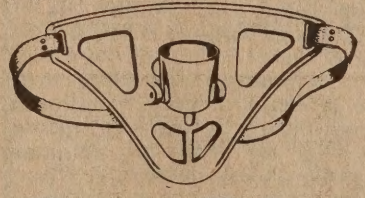
Important Notice

We are proud to announce to our readers that Governor Carey has informed us that he has submitted the name of Dr. William A. Muller toSecretary of Commerce Elliot L. Richardson as one of his nominees to the Mid-Atlantic Marine Fishery Management Council, which will set the guidelines for implementation and enforcement of the 200-Mile Limit. The Governor has also submitted the name of Dr. Einar F. Grell, who The Fisherman also nominated when we learned that more than one representative for sportfishing interests could serve on the Council.

Once again we have seen what the power of the letter can do to get things done for our interests. We would like to thank all of the clubs, organizations and individuals that took time out to write a letter in answer to our plea. The battle is not won yet, and we may have to ask your help again...as further information about the council becomes available we will pass it on to you.

The Long Island FISHERMAN FISHING TRIP CONTEST

The Long Island Fisherman Litter Box Contest gives our readers a chance of winning a fishing trip for two on the open boat of their choice and a $10 cash prize. All the fisherman has to do is stop in at one of the better bait and tackle centers and pick up an L.I.F. Litter Box for the rear window of your car. Each week the license number of a car spotted with a litter box will be published—if it's yours, call The Fisherman by 5 P.M. that Friday and tell us the make and model of the car and you're a winner! If no call is received, the cash prize will accumulate.



★ Bonus Prize ★

Contest winners also will receive a NAFABCO GIMBAL ROD BELT, the new lightweight unbreakable plastic gimbal for boat 9 surf!!!

LAST WEEK'S WINNER:

The person with the license no. 255-OTV failed to call into L.I.F. a description of his car by the Friday deadline so this week once again there is no winner of the Fishing Trip Contest. Next week's winner shall receive $30 instead of the usual $10 plus a fishing trip for 2 aboard a boat of his choice.

THIS WEEK'S WINNING LICENSE PLATE NUMBER IS:

724-XGG

Weekly winners of the L.I.F. Litter Box Contest may chose a trip for two aboard one of the following boats as their prize:

MONTAUK	CAPTREE	SHEEPSHEAD BAY	NORTH SHORE
Viking Star	Speedy VI	Amberjack IV	Port Jeff Ace
Peconic Queen III	Capt. Ben Litwin	Chief	Betty W
Marlin III	Capt. Joseph Fleet	FREEPORT Aloma II	

THE BOTTOM LINE

with Scott Simons

The Science of Fluke Fishing Part I

Well it's that time of year again...the fluke have moved through the inlets into all of the south shore bays and are now in strong in the rips off Montauk. Last year I wrote a six part series on "Advanced Fluke Fishing" for this column, which was well received by the readers of L.I.F., so this year I will devote the same amount of time and space to one of my favorite fish, plus one additional column. While this may seem at first glance to be somewhat of an overkill to cover the fishing techniques for one species of fish, it isn't, for several reasons. First off, there isn't any, repeat ANY fish swimming in our waters that requires more knowledge and angling expertise to catch fish consistently and in quantity than the fluke—and that statement INCLUDES the striped bass. Second, it is the most popular species of fish in the summer months among anglers...for every bass fisherman, there's more than a dozen flukers—for every bluewater offshore fisherman, there's a hundred or more.

This popularity of the fluke among the inshore fisherman is easily understood if we take a look at the fishes credentials. Although their feeding habits often result in a poor battle when hooked by the angler, they are capable of putting up a good account of themselves when they feel like it. (Just between you and me, the striped bass and weakfish aren't any great shakes in the fight department either). Fluke can be taken using the full range of major fishing techniques: drifting, trolling, chumming, casting, live-lining, etc. They are abundant enough that even the novice angler using the basic fundamentals is almost guaranteed to put a few fish in the box. They may be taken from open boats, rental skiffs, from piers and bulkheads, or from the bank or surf. The angler doesn't have to spend any huge amount of money on sophisticated equipment to catch fluke, either—just about any light spinning rod or bay rod will more than do the job. The fluke is a recognized gamefish by the International Game Fish Association, so the angler lucky enough to catch a large fish is recognized by his peers. Fluke range in size from "shorts" of under the fourteen inch minimum size to "doormats" of over 20 pounds, so the possibility of hooking up with a big fish is always there. And last but not least, the fluke is one of the best eating fish around!

Truthfully, I didn't realize myself how much was actually involved in fluke fishing until I sat down last summer to write the book "Fishing For Fluke" for The Fisherman Publication series on local species of gamefish. It seemed that the more I sat and thought about past experiences while fluke fishing and analyzed small bits of information, the more I would learn about the subject. It was like a giant jigsaw puzzle...I had all the pieces of the puzzle in my head, but this was the first time I had ever taken a few weeks to put them together. The more I got into the subject and assembled the puzzle, situations that occured in the past that didn't make any sense at the time suddenly had logical explanations. For example: Why would the fluke not look at a sand eel when the water off Gin Beach at Montauk was loaded with them? Why would the fish feed on incoming water in one area, outgoing at another? Why were all of my doormat class fluke taken around the change of the tide or when the fishing was slow? Why did a slow retrieve, even though the boat was drifting, seem to be effective at certain times? Originally the book was scheduled to be 96 pages with a large chapter at the end covering "Where To Go" to catch fluke, but the vast amount of information that was eventually compiled on actual fishing techniques made it necessary to eliminate this chapter and expand the book to the maximum 112 pages. If you really are into fluke fishing, I modestly suggest that you send to the Fisherman for a copy.

This series will consist of seven articles, and will assume that the reader is starting with a basic knowledge of fluke fishing so that we don't have to spend too much time on the basic fundamentals and can really get into the "science" of fluking. The seven installments will cover: Part One—This is it. Part Two—Bait (Killies, sandeels, spearing, Squid, etc.) Part Three—Strip Baits. Part Four—Locating Fluke with bottom Formations. Part Five—Drifting Techniques. Part Six—Chumming and Trolling Techniques and Part Seven—Artificial Lures and live lining. At the end of the series, you should be an accomplished fluke fisherman of the first degree if you follow the advice and learn to apply the information and techniques to your own fishing grounds.

RIGGING-UP

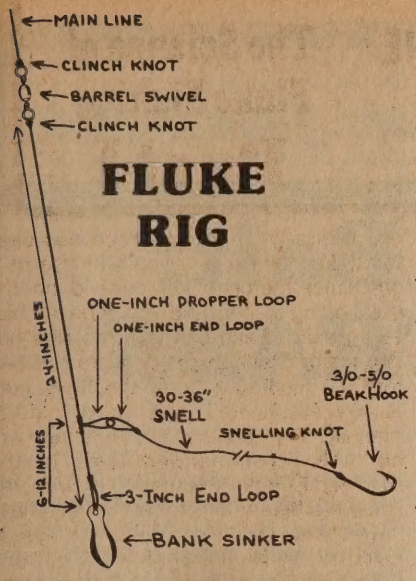
The first order of business is rigging up. Basically, there are three rigs used for fluke. Which one you will use at a particular moment will depend on the area being fished and the type of bait being used. Each of the three rigs has two major functions: it delivers the bait into the feeding zone of the fluke, and also presents the bait in a natural manner. One popular rig that you will not see recommended here is the so-called "Fluke Spinner" rig with the shiny blades and pretty red beads. I have never found either a shiny piece of metal or any salmon eggs in the gut of a fluke, and find it hard to understand why any angler could be lead to believe that a fluke would want to eat that junk. Granted, the flashing, gyrating spinning blades may attract an occasional fish to your bait from a distance that they normally may not see the bait, but fluke spinners have two major drawbacks that make their use a definite handicap. The extra hardware has a tendency to collect an abundance of seaweed and other garbage, and the revolving spinners create a considerable amount of water resistance that necessitates the use of a larger sinker to keep the rig on the bottom. Other than that, they're great rigs to use.

As with all bottom rigs, the amount of hardware used to assemble the components of the rig should be kept to an absolute minimum. Other than leader material and hooks, the only hardware that is mandatory is a barrel swivel to prevent excessive line twist and to act as a sinker stop on the sliding sinker rig. Because the major technique for fluke fishing is drifting, the bottom rigs used should be kept as simple as possible and tied in quantity in advance of a fishing trip in anticipation of loosing a lot from getting hung-up on bottom obstructions.

The best all around hook pattern for fluke, in my opinion, is the gold beak hook. Its offset point, quick penetrating abilities and wide bend make this style the best choice. Do NOT use the split-shank "baitholder" style, which can only put an unnatural bend or crimp in your bait. Bank sinkers are preferred over the other patterns because they are less likely to hang up on the bottom while drifting.

BASIC FLUKE RIG
(Bay or Ocean)

This rig is simple to tie and very effective for taking fluke under a wide

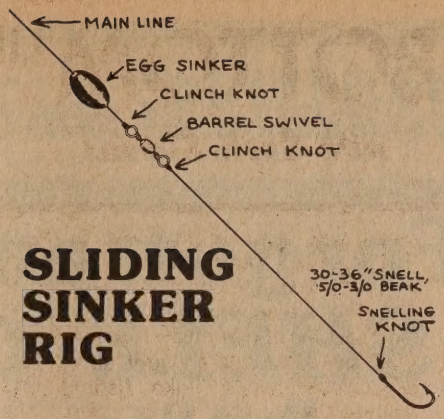


variety of conditions. The necessary components are: two pieces of 30 or 40 lb. test leader material, each at least 42 inches long; one number 7 black barrel swivel; one gold beak hook. You also must know how to tie a decent clinch knot, snelling knot, dropper loop and end loop.

Attach the barrel swivel to one end of a piece of leader material with an improved clinch knot. At the opposite end of the leader, tie an end loop with a diameter of approximately two inches for the sinker. The distance between the barrel swivel and the end loop should be at least 36 inches, but no more than 42. Then tie a dropper loop into the line above the end loop. The distance should be between six and eighteen inches above the end loop, depending on the depth of water and strength of the current in the area being fished. As a rule-of-thumb, the deeper the water, the longer the distance. Attach the hook to a second piece of leader material with a snelling knot. To the opposite end, tie an end loop with a one-inch diameter approximately 36 inches from the hook. Attach this dropper loop to the one tied into the leader so that the two loops interlock. Attach the bank sinker to the end loop and tie the main line to the barrel swivel with an improved clinch knot. Season to taste.

SLIDING SINKER RIG
(Shallow Bay Waters)

This rig has the advantage which allows the angler a direct connection with the baited hook. When a softly biting fish picks up the bait he won't feel any resistance from the sinker and the angler will feel every movement and hopefully be able to detect when the fish has swallowed the bait. The two



drawbacks to this rig is its knack of picking up seaweed and it is difficult to cast, but it is still the most effective rig to use when the fluke are feeding in shallow waters where they rarely will venture more than a foot or so off the bottom in pursuit of a bite to eat.

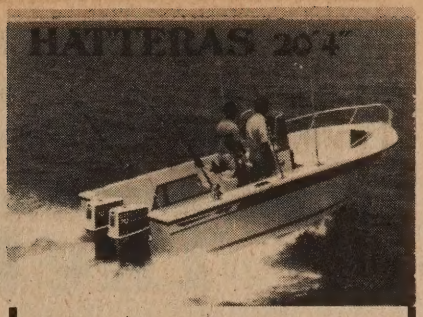
The sliding sinker rig is ridiculously easy to tie, and I am surprised that more bay fishermen don't use it more often. Snell a hook to one end of leader material and tie a one inch end loop at the opposite end approximately 36 inches away. Attach this end loop to one eye of a number five black barrel swivel. Thread the main line through the center hole of an egg sinker, then attach it to the other eye of the barrel swivel with an improved clinch knot. That's it. The egg sinker simply slides back and forth on the mainline, the barrel swivel preventing it from getting too close to the baited hook.

TANDEM HOOK RIG
(Ocean or Deep Water)

This is THE fluke rig in my opinion. The primary purpose of the rig design is to overcome the fluke's tendency to softly pick up a large bait and bite it off short or steal the bait entirely without ever coming into contact with the business end of a hook. The tandem hook arrangement places a second "stringer" hook in the rear portion of the bait so that the angler has a chance of hooking up with these "short" biting fish. The stinger hook floats freely on the leader, which prevents the bait from becomming twisted unnaturally from the force of the current. The hook may also be adjusted to accomodate the varying lengths of baitfish and strip baits to be used for fluke. Although the rig may be a little difficult to tie at first, with a little practice they can be turned out with little effort, which will well be worth it in the increased catch the tandem hook rig will insure.

Take a piece of leader material and snell a hook near one end so that about 6 or 7 inches of leader still extends below

(Continued on page 54.)



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BASS FISHING with Capt. John DeMaio

The Forgotten Bait: SOFT SHELL CRABS

Part One

Catching striped bass by using lures is the most desired method. By me it is, and I am sure a great number of bass experts will agree to that. Yet, when all the lures fail, bait will come to the rescue. Why not! Being a purist is admirable, but catching fish is a helluva lot of fun. The use of bait is the best means to catch bass. What ever the bait. Whether it be alive, dead or processed. Nothing will lure a bass to a hook better than the real thing.

Bait does have its faults. One, the availability of it. Two, maintaining the quality, which in most cases means keeping it alive (this would also include whatever preparations necessary beforehand to maintain life.) Three, the expense. Finally, the often slow process created when using it. Still none of these four reasons are strong enough to deter the regular fisherman.

Bait must be presented to the bass in a life like manner. Particularly live baits. Bunker, mackerel, eels, and shrimp to name a few. Yet some baits, such as clam bellies don't require the finesse needed to make a fish bite. In fact, clam bellies have made many a mediocre angler, a heavy hitter. Not only has it given glory to line jerkers, but it has superceeded all the favorite bass baits of years past. Not only clam bellies, but the indescriminate use of insecticides brought about the end of the forgotten bait, the soft shell crab.

Americans, in their mad pursuit for perfection, tend to create a plastic society. Worse than plastic, sterile. A change of attitude regarding the balance of nature is now the fashion. It wasn't in the early sixties. Wide spread use of D.D.T. along our bays in hopes of destroying the mosquito population, damned near wiped out the blue claw crab. Except for a few survivors, the blue claw crab all but disappeared from our Long Island shores. Within the past 4 years, the crab has returned in abundance.

Unfortunately great harm to our bass population took place during the absence. When summering in the bays crabs are an important part of the striped bass diet. Coincidence or not, the bass fishing within the bays fell off tremendously during those lean crab years.

First signs of it back in Jamaica Bay was a lack of bigger fish and an alarming amount of shorts. The first year the shorts showed up gave us all hopes of a strong following season. Only it did not happen. Instead of 15 inches long, the next summer they were 14 inches long. What a joke. To catch a short was once considered an oddity. Before long the bays were being passed by and the ocean getting all the play. But now the crab is back, and dollars to donuts says it can still coach a bass to a hook. Maybe even more than one.

My advice is to save all your softies. Never eat them. Once was, amongst my clan, eating a soft shell crab was a sin. A soft shell crab sandwich was no match for a 15 pound bass peeling off line and breaking water on the shallow flats of the bay. A prime softie could catch a mess of fish, and still should.

One day a friend of mine, caught over 100 pounds with one crab. It was about 14 fish if I remember correctly. He tied onto the railroad tracks by Rockaway Beach. On the shallow end near the sand island. The first cast back into the tide held a quarter of the crab. A fish picked up the bait quickly. All he had was one crab in the boat, so he began to conserve. Eventually he was using the legs only. Not the claws only, but the legs. As soon as the cast line would hit the water, a fish would take the bait with a swirl. To prove the crab was doing the trick, after the bait was gone, he switched to lures and could not get a bite. 14 bass on a medium size crab is something to remember, and a testimony to the shedder crab.

Shedder crab was the name used by tackle and bait dealers. The dealers never sold a soft crab. What they did sell was a crab about to shed its shell. A crab grows by discarding his shell and emerging a larger crab. The process happens very often in the early life of a crab and slows up to about once a year at

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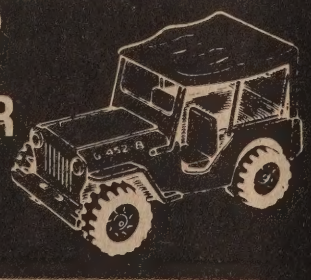

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maturity. Before a crab backs out of its shell, the inside of the crab comes apart from the hard outside shell. The top outside shell separates from the bottom shell and the crab, in a pulsating rhythm, slowly slips out of his old shell a bit larger. After a 48 hour period, the soft crab slowly hardens, in water only. During the hardening period, the crab is very vulnerable. Prior to this astonishing exhibition, the crab has a pink and blue coloring on the bottom of his shell. Especially in the female crab. This heralds the forthcoming event and gives way to the name, shedder crab. They were sold live. When preparing for fishing, the hard shell was picked away and the remaining inside crab was used for bait. It was costly, time consuming and you could get bitten. Catch your own soft crabs. That was the answer. To catch crabs you need a scoop net. Best time is at night, so a flashlight is also required. The most practiced method was to walk along in shallow water towing behind a bushel, inside an inner tube. Just like the clammers. Soft crabs do not run, so the flashlight in one hand and the net in the other was okay. Hardshells require fast net movements demanding two hands. Good spots were along marsh banks underneath water front homes, and around docks and under water obstructions. Only at low tide, a falling low tide.

As the crabs soft shell begins to harden, it is commonly called a 'leatherback' for obvious reasons! They can be used equally as well as the softies. Remember, a soft crab will harden only in water. Do not try to keep them alive by leaving them in water. Keep moist, and refrigerate.

Some years back a fisherman was telling me a story of how he had a half dozen softies in a killie cart. He had them there to keep the crabs alive. When he finally set up at his favorite fishing stop, and reached for the bait, the damned crabs were snapping away. Now here's the best part of the story. Being a resourceful chap, he simply crushed each crab, a little with his foot. He then took sections and used them for bait. It worked. Now that does not mean that hard shell crabs make good bait. At least I don't think so. What it means is do not keep your blue claws in water. Also, make the best out of what you have. To emphasize a point, many years ago, Frank Marino swore up and down to me about how good green crabs are for surf bait. So if you happen to scoop up a soft green crab, try him out.

Tackle required. A fairly stout boat rod is best. Something you might use blackfishing. Perhaps some-what lighter. A small reel up to a Penn squidder in size will do. With the exception being where you may want to cast. Then I would use a bait casting reel. With the reel a lighter rod. Spinning is not right for this fishing. Letting the bass run a short distance when he picks up the bait is common practice. For this you need a conventional reel to play off line. A good line in the 20 pound class is okay. Although, for this fishing, heavy lines willl not make a fish shy. So if you wish, 30 pound will work well. The 20 is more suitable for casting.

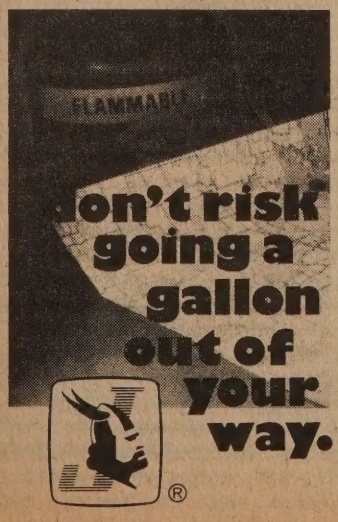
Rigging the crab. Endless are the variations. Fish finder rigs, 3 feet leaders, leather straps and pyramid sinkers are only a few. For a while, I can remember the bridge fishermen using a diamond jig. Between the jig and the treble hook was a Luxon snap. When baiting up, the treble hook was snapped off the jig and the eye of the treble forced up into the section of crab forcing the crab down onto the hooks. Then the treble was snapped back on the jig. Some people claimed it worked. That only shows you how thick they used to be.

The best way I was ever shown, and best in any situation, goes like this. Tie the hook to the end of you line. About 2 to 3 feet above the hook, place the weight needed. Never tie on a sinker. They're bigger than split shot. More weight can be obtained easily in this manner by simply clamping on another sinker. You may want to add a piece of leader to your line, especially if you are using a light line. A 3 foot piece is good. More than that is not needed. Attach the leader to your line with a small barrel swivel.

You should always use the lightest amount of weight possible. Never overweight. Striped bass can be very suspicious when taking a piece of crab bait. What they do mostly, is pick up the bait gingerly, turn and move away. If the fish feels a strong resistance, he will drop the bait. This is the reason for less weight. The fish will not shy from the line, but from the weight. Heavy lines need heavy weights. So I guess the lighter the pound test, the "cuter" the rigging.

Selecting the right hook is important. Most popular today is the eagle claw shape. When I last fished soft shell crabs we used a Mustad O'Shannesy hook. About a 4/0 I think. Anything from a 3/0 to a 5/0 should work well. Even bigger if you can get away with it. The big trick here is to use a short shank hook. A short shank hook will not show outside the bait as a regular hook. The only part of the hook showing should be the point.

Eagle Claw hooks have two faults. One: they tend to spin in the tide. Two: handling a hooked fish can be awkard because of that long turned over point that usually manages to come around and cut your finger. Worry about number two when the time comes. A scarred index finger on your right hand is a painful pleasure. You can lick your wounds all the way home, with a grin.



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NOTES ON JETTY FISHING

by Frank Berrafato

A fisherman's lexicon would probably define a "jetty jockey" as one who "maneuvers or negotiates with agility over slippery rocks". Any angler who has fished a coastal shoreline has inevitably come across the many structures which man has built in attempts to control the strong ocean currents and damaging waves. Jetties, breakwaters and seawalls are the most common structures, with jetties and breakwaters holding a special interest for fishermen.

The question which first arises is "why fish from a jetty?" Years of constant wave action has erroded many of the rock jetties to the point where they are dangerous even to walk on, especially at the high tidal stage. Obviously, they must be good places to fish. The front of the jetty usually has strong tidal currents and rips, enabling many baitfish and crabs to be trapped in the turbulent currents. Jetties also offer a new excitement and challenge for the angler, since they are difficult to fish from, especially when trying to land a good size fish. The jetty jockey places himself in a different environment than the surfcaster, and accordingly, he must adapt his tackle and techniques to meet this unique challenge.

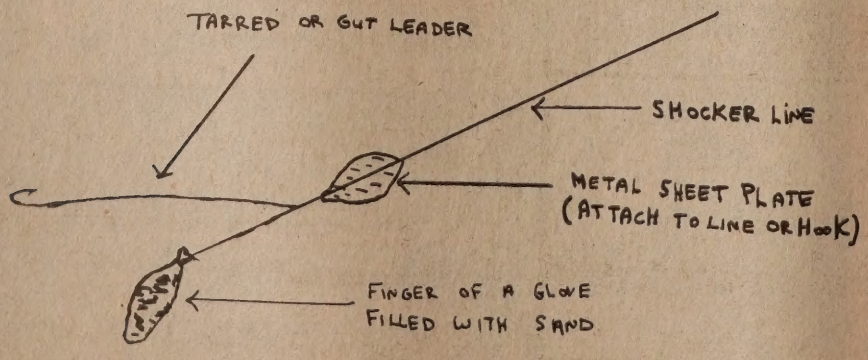
Jetty overlooking Shinnecock Inlet.

At first glance, a jettial structure appears to be an incoherent, haphazard bunch of rocks thrown together, serving no apparent purpose. But the structures are scientifically thought out. Engineers have reasoned that in constructing jetties randomly shaped rocks should be used, preferrably with as few plane surfaces as possible. The reason—rough irregular surfaces dissipate wave energy in turbulence. The combinations of rocks interlock so that they can naturally support each other, and they are permeable so that water can flow freely through them.

Some of the larger, longer jetties have missing boulders or gaping holes midway out, which are quite easy to negotiate when dried by the sun at low tide, but become treacherous when the tide becomes higher, particularly on a windy day. Many of the rocks are covered with a greenish tinge, mossy boulders which can be as slippery as a sheet of ice.

The jetty jockey has gone a long way in solving many of the difficulties of walking on a pile of rocks—shoes with special contraptions to cause friction, preventing slides and falls. Heading the list are creepers, felt sandals, or soles glued on the boot foot, spikes or even chains wrapped around the shoe or boot. Fish a jetty in darkness and the sound of chained shoes banging on the rocks will often fill the night air. This writer has also seen the use of walking sticks by some jockeys which is an aid in maintaining balance. Some of these sticks can be converted into long handled gaffs when the destination is reached.

Many of the old pros who have fished jetties year after year have made the short and stubby jetty stick an important piece of their equipment. The revolving spool reel complements the short rod. The jetty stick is advantageous in the rocky environment where short casts are sufficient since the fish are near the rocks, usually only a few feet away. Also,



JETTY JOCKEY'S BOTTOM RIG

ort rod is easier to handle and cast in onfined environment. A rod with kbone is needed to stop a bull- ging blackfish, to prevent him from ing down into the rocks, and to lift all and medium size fish onto the ks and bring others to within gaffing ge.

But fish a jetty today, and you will find types of rods and reels. There is an phasis on light tackle, to multiply the ht of the fish and to use the lighter igs and lures effectively. When a large n is hooked, most anglers will try to d the fish back to the shoreline, tead of trying to bring him onto the ty with light tackle. It is a method ich often requires some fancy foot- rk.

Jetty fishermen can fish cut or live it, live eels, or a variety of plugs and res. In the area of baitfishing, genuity has been used to invent actical terminal tackle. Sinkers are ost likely to snag, especially when shing for blackfish. The use of breakaway sinkers" goes a long way in lving this problem. They can be shioned from fingers of an old glove led with the proper amount of sand or om a piece of cloth packed with a uantity of sand. The idea is that it will p or tear with a good yank. An alternative is to use bass-casting sinkers, which tend to roll on the rocks and are less likely to permanently snag the bottom. Some fishermen will tie regular bank sinkers to their line with a piece of weak line or twine, which will part after a good tug.

Many fishermen will attach a sheet metal plate, oval in shape and about four inches long between the hooks and the sinker. Most are homemade. When the line is retrieved rapidly, this device will bring the rigging up toward the surface, thus avoiding the snagging bottom. It is advisable to use only a single hook. Hooks should be frequently checked for sharpness, since scraping against the rocks will dull thepoint. Hook hones or stones should be carried along on all trips.

Leaders are also an important part of the terminal tackle. Gut or tarred leaders are used by many fishermen, since the underwater terrain will put cuts in the ordinary monofilament types. The rocky environment also takes its toll of lures and plugs. Shiny new lures will be scratched and marred quickly. Wire leaders can be used with lures or plugs worked close to the bottom. Anglers who prefer mono leaders can make "shocker lines" (30 or 40 lb. test mono added to the regular 12 or 17 lb. test line,) and the added length of line can be replaced at different intervals in order to keep the leader at its full strength.

Many jetty jockeys believe it is best to select a jetty where there is no one else fishing. This will give you the advantage of working the jetty the way you want, casting on either side, on any angle, and maneuvering your bait or lure without interference. Crowds of fishermen are not always the best indication of the current hot spots.

Jetty fishing is an exciting and challenging aspect of surfcasting. More physical exertion is required than in most other forms of fishing. However, safety should be emphasized. This writer is not recommending that everyone run onto a jetty to fish. It is best to acquire experience first, progressing from the easier jetties to the more difficult ones. In this type of fishing, the emphasis is on the chase, since there are many fishless days for jetty jockeys. But there is a great feeling of accomplishment when a big gamester is successfully fought and landed from a high pile of rocks.

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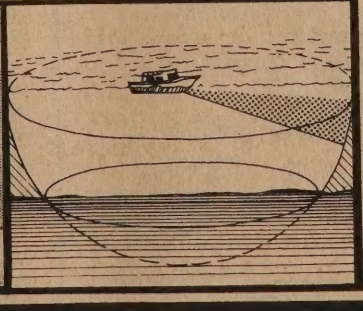

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Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

FLUKE FISHING
Part II

Luckily for me, but unluckily for the thousands of fluke that were to later come my way over the years, this fisherman took compassion upon me. I suppose being a kid helped. But, anyway, he kind-heartedly motioned me to come and fish alongside him.

I needed no second invitation, believe me. The first thing he told me to do was to get rid of the long-shanked hook I was using. He gave me a 5/0 Sproat on the then usual three-foot gut leader. Then he told me to forget the jigging methods I had been using and to jig with no more than two-inch lifts of the rod tip, which I suppose barely made the live killie twitch on bottom.

"Don't wait for a bite," he told me. "You won't get one, anyway. You'll feel a little extra weight, that's all. Then get all the slack out of the line and hook your fish with a quick snap of the wrist. It's easy. Watch, now."

And he proceeded to do just that, hooking a good sized fluke with ease. It took me a few minutes to master the method, but by gosh, it worked, and it still works today whenever the fish put on the finicky act.

Actually, I believe the reason for this method's success lies in the use of a lighter, regular shanked Sproat, rather than the heavier long-shanked Carlisle. No doubt this allows the killy freedom of movement, thereby attracting the fluke. The old-timer used no "black magic". Just some well thought out common sense, which is what all good fishing techniques are based upon.

Regular jigging motions, or fast drifts, probably don't interest a fluke that is off its feed, but if it's right there and easy to grab without too much effort, the fluke will take advantage of its opportunity.

It's the only explanation I've come up with. I've experimented with smaller number one Sproats occasionally, and the results are the same, except that I missed more fish than I normally would. I suppose the moral to the story is: never hesitate to experiment. You'll probably be wrong most times; but what if, like my kind-hearted friend aboard the White Eagle, you do come upon something that makes all the effort worthwhile? In such ways are master fishermen made.

The rest of the rigging is simple enough. Hooks should be snelled on a three-foot leader for best results, and this placed about two inches above a bank sinker of suitable weight, with or without the aid of a three-way swivel.

I can't tell you the exact sinker weight because many factors like strength of current, rate of drift, etc., enter into the selection. But if your sinker is heavy enough to hold bottom, and not put too much of a set in your rod tip, you'll be okay. This is why medium-weight tackle is so much better to use than the lighter stuff.

Don't forget a net and don't hesitate to use it on every fish. Fluke have a cute trick of shaking free when lifted aboard. You'll find, too, that so well do they accomplish this feat, some of your fluke may be lying hook-free in the net. Many a pool-winner has been lost because the fisherman thought he could handle the fish alone. I can tell you some sad stories about this.

I don't believe there is a better fluke bait for fishing the bays and ocean beaches than a lively, two inch killy. Next in preference would be a slice of sea robin tail, a three-inch strip of fluke belly, a whole spearing, and a three or four inch strip of squid, in that order. This order of choice is mine, and mine alone. Some experienced fishermen might dispute the order of preference I'm sure, but this is what works best for me.

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I find fluke belly produces extremely well in the ocean, especially when used in combination with a lively killy. The sea robin, spearing, and squid, can be used to good advantage in all bays, creeks, and channels, and while drifting the ocean beaches. Some days sea robin strips work wonders along the beaches and around inlets. There's just no way of telling before hand what will work best, but the fisherman armed with live killies, and who works them slowly, always has an edge.

If the killy is hooked through the mouth and out the gill cover, you'll find it staying alive a good, long time. When using spearing, run the hook through the head, then into the body about mid-point. Let the hook protrude. Doing it this way allows the spearing to lie straight along the hook shank. This will keep it from spinning as you drift and jig. Not only will your offering look natural, but I'm sure no self-respecting fluke would go near a spearing that is twisting and twirling along the bottom in the manner of a whirling dervish.

Some fishermen hook their spearing only once through the head. They claim the bait appears more natural this way. True, enough. But there's one drawback to this. Should a fluke hit when the bait is being lifted on the jig, it's quite likely that it will be torn free before the hook can be set. But try it both ways when the opportunity presents itself and see which works best for you.

When using fish bait such as sea robin, fluke belly, and squid, hook through the widest part, and impart plenty of action, allowing it to dance along the bottom. Give the fluke time to munch a bit before setting the hook.

Sometimes the weather makes drifting impossible, then it's a good time to anchor and still-fish in any area you know contains fluke. You can cast around the boat, jigging the line with short lifts of the rod as you work it back. Don't be in too great a hurry to make another cast. Work your bait slowly along the bottom. Often the fish will seize the bait near the end of the retrieve.

Some fishermen don't bother to drift at any time. They anchor in a likely-looking spot and lower a chum pot filled with ground mossbunker. When jiggled from time to time to disperse the goo in the current, results are often spectacular. This method works exceptionally well in narrow, deep creeks.

Should you decide to try this method, and it's highly recommended when conditions warrant, be sure to fish near the pot, or directly in line with the bits and pieces as the tidal action rolls them along the bottom. It isn't necessary to make long casts away from the boat when using a chum pot. You'll only be defeating its purpose, if you do.

The Long Island FISHERMAN

Attention Fishermen!

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LOCATION	SEASON	SPECIES	COMMENTS
Bayville	Spring	Bass	Bayville Bridge, or in front of wall to Rocky Pt.
Makamah Beach	Summer/Fall	Blues	Bait, Plugs
Eastern North Shore	Spring/Fall	Bass, Blues	
Gilgo	Fall	Bass, Blues	Bait
Moriches Inlet	Summer/Fall	Bass, Blues, Weaks	
Moriches Bay	Summer	Bass, Blues, Weaks	Plugs
Ocean—South Shore	Spring/Fall	Flounder	
Ocean—South Shore	Summer	Fluke	
Ocean—Montauk to Jones Beach	Winter	Cod Whiting	
Glen Cove	Spring/Summer	Bass	Mackerel Strips
Long Beach Jetty	Summer or Fall	Bass	Rigged Eels, Bunker
Atlantic Bch. Jetties	Summer or Fall	Bass	
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If you are interested forward detailed outline to:

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Fluke lend themselves to much experimentation, and the methods of fishing are often varied and unusual. No article could do justice to all the tricks experienced fishermen use. It would probably take a dozen articles to do so and then the surface would barely be scratched.

What I'm leading to is this: If you wish to become a dedicated fluke fisherman, don't hesitate to read all you can on the subject. And to that end, let me say that I believe no finer book on how to fluke is available than Scott Simons' Fishing For Fluke. The interested fisherman will be doing himself a favor by ordering a copy.

I con you not. I wouldn't recommend any book on fishing if I thought for one minute that it failed in its purpose, which is to help the reader catch fish. This book will do just that. Check this magazine for information on ordering.

Fluke fishing has been very good these past several years and there's no reason to believe it won't continue to be so. Go out this summer and get yourself a mess of fluke. Not only won't you be sorry, you might just think there's no other fishing like it. If so, you've got plenty of company.

Small Boat Fluking

by Bruce Sucher

Skiff fishing for fluke is done mostly in quiet bays and channels, along flats and near jetties. I realize that there are a few hardy maniacs that don't mind being out of sight inland in a fourteen footer, but these people are the exception. Prime fluke turf on the south shore of Long Island includes New York Harbor, Jamaica Bay, Reynold's Channel, State Channel, Great South Bay, Moriches Bay and I could go on and on. Each of these areas holds fluke in various numbers and size. If you know any one particular area well, you'll never have to venture further. The grass is greener syndrome is as rampant amongst fishermen as it is cows. Every locale has its good days and big fish. Don't expect to arrive 'green' at an unknown area and produce as well as a local. Odds are against you. Concentrate on learning the waters closest to you.

There are three ways of fishing for fluke from a small boat; drifting, anchoring and trolling. Drifting is by far the most popular. Under most circumstances it is also the method that suits these agressive flat fish the best. I like a stiff, light conventional rod with a conventional reel spooled with 15-20 pound test line. I once tried light spin tackle for fluke. I got hits frequently but because the rod had little back-bone I could not set the hook. I tried sharpening the barb, using smaller hooks, etc, but to no avail. It was frustrating and I hope my experience can save you the time. My terminal tackle is fairly simple. A 4/0 Sproat on 20 lb. leader about three feet long is tied four inches over a bank sinker heavy enough to hold bottom.

The assortment of bait for fluke is vast. Spearing, sand eels, live killies as well as small snappers, herring etc. are all excellent. Strip bait can be made from larger fish such as sea robin, sand shark, bunker, porgy or even the fluke belly. The small dead fish should be hooked through the eyes, live bait through the lips. Strip bait should be about ¾ of an inch wide and you can taper it to a point or leave it the constant width. I like a 3-4 inch length of untapered fluke for this type of fishing, especially in the Jamaica Bay area. Hook the strip once through the heavier end.

Some people find that frequently the fluke are biting short and retaliate by hooking the bait fish or strip bait more than once. What results is a twisted leader and no fish. Bunching up the bait by double hooking produces an unnatural presentation, and although the fluke is not the wariest of fishes it is not the dumbest either. A way to compensate for short hits is a discipline in itself. The natural reaction to a hit is an immediate strike. Now this will work on many species of fish, but it will only rarely work with fluke. Fish for them with your reel on free spool, or with your spinning reels' bail open. Hold the line from going out with your thumb or for spinning with an index finger. As you drift along you'll feel a sudden weight. Let out line, about three feet should do. Let the drift tighten your line, close your reel down and lift your tip firmly. You've got a fluke? Reel him in slowly to the boat, if he wants line let him have it. Hopefully you didn't lock your drag. When he gets to the side of the skiff put your net down and gently guide him in. Fluke have a maddening habit of spitting the hook at the boat, if you left your net home or if you don't have one then you'll learn soon enough. The hard way.

The edge of the channel, near Breezy Point pays off.

Pat didn't need the net for this one, but it was close at hand.

Generally flats at high tide or small inland channels are good bets. The channel edge where the change in depth occurs is the best by far. Many fluke are taken in three to five feet of water, and that's the skiffs' real strong point. The small boats have shallow draft and are extremely maneuverable. Near break waters is good too, especially if the drift runs parallel to the rocks. Make sure that your engine starts easily and avoid the lines of shore fishermen.

If you're uncertain and need the extra confidence that expert advice can bring, then ask your regular bait and tackle shop. The owners have a good working knowledge of their areas.

Fluke will lie in bands along channel edges or on the flats. If you pick up fish on one drift then repeat it again and again. If you find a particular area that consistently produces you can anchor there. Cast your rig from the boat and then slowly retrieve it. If you are not adept at casting or if you prefer fishing for fluke the same way you do for flounder you can chum. My favorite chum is frozen bunker, but mackerel or even clam bellies will do. I say frozen because it is easier to handle and appropriate size hunks can be put into your chum pot with much less fuss. As the chum defrosts it sets a line of small tantalizing particles that draw the fish under your skiff. Fish the same tackle as you would for drifting, but bounce your bait frequently as the chum also draws crabs. Live killies seem to be a better bait while at anchor because they do not attract as much attention from crabs as do the dead spearing or strip baits. A warning about anchoring for fluke. Stay out of channels or make sure your life insurance is paid up.

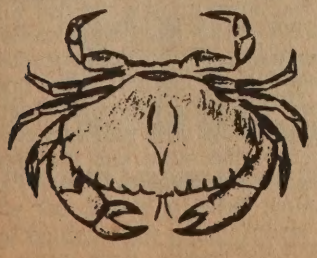
There comes a time during the dog days of summer when the tide and wind are barely moving. You know the fish are there, but the lack of movement is hurting your chances of connecting. It's time to troll for fluke. Strip baits are in order, because they are tougher and less likely to be yanked from the hook by a belligerent fish. Invariably your leader will twist no matter how careful you are in putting the bait on the hook. I've had the best luck using trolling sinkers with bead-chains. The lead is streamlined to get your bait to the bottom and the bead-chain acts as a series of swivels that will keep the kinks out of your leader.

I use the same outfit that I use for drift fishing. In fact everything is the same except for the sinker. Tie it directly to the end of your line and then put the leader loop on the snap. I usually get by with a two ounce lead, and three is my limit. I troll in no more than fifteen feet of water, and frequently in less than five. The flats are particularly good places to troll and there is a one ounce trolling sinker used which is perfect. If you wish to troll in deep water, then you'll need heavier lead and a heavier outfit all around to support it. For me, this takes the pleasure out of trolling.

Head into the current, going about three miles per hour. Hold the rod tip towards the sky. Let out enough line so you can feel the sinker occasionally tapping the bottom. Take the reel out of free spool. When you feel the fish take hold, drop the tip so it points towards the fish, then when the line tightens set the hook. For some reason the fish hit a trolled bait with more abandon, and a long drop-back is not necessary. Just remember to bring the pork rind or use a small piece of strip bait on the hook.

For some reason trolling for fluke is a neglected art. Perhaps because it's a little more work? The next time the wind and current give up, don't you do the same. Try trolling. You'd be surprised how many eager fluke there are beneath that mirror like water.

If deep water and inboard engines are for you, then I'll see you later, but don't snub your nose at a small boat fluke fishing. A lot of doormats have been taken in water shallow enough to scrape your barnacles off.



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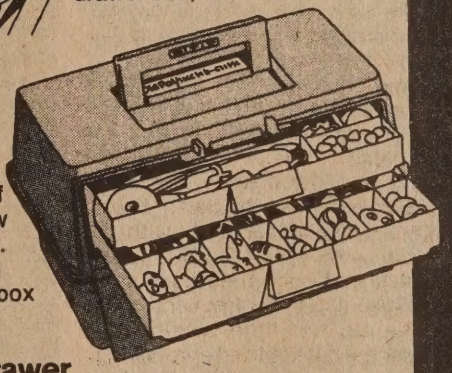

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BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY

by Dr. William A. Muller

It's an odd thing but the biggest cod and pollack seem to hang around the small humps on the ocean floor. These humps are the last remains of wrecks which many years ago protruded well above the sea floor or they may be patches of hard rock which resisted the erosive effects of tides and waves.

At any rate, the bigger fish like them and the reasons are not too difficult to understand. Small feeding areas hold only limited supplies of bait and offer very meager shelter. Therefore, only bigger fish can successfully compete for these essential items for survival and the little fish must search elsewhere for them.

Long Island charterboat and party boat captains, like Captain Paul Sundberg of the boat Montauk have studied both the distribution and habits of our gamefish. They keep very careful records and therefore any statements that they make about where the fish are or why they aren't must be given careful considerations.

On a recent spring trip to Montauk waters for cod and pollack, Captain Sundberg and the other skippers were forced to make the run to Shark's Ledge south of Block Island, at a time of year when inshore fishing should have been very productive.

The captain explained: "Each year we see fewer and fewer fish in close and we must fish further away from port. Whether this is related to changes in water temperature, the harvests of foreign fleets, or a scarcity of bait is hard to say."

Each of the experienced skippers has his own point of view, but one thing they all agree upon: Their logs show a steady decline in the abundance of cod and pollack.

We jigged diamond jigs vigorously for several hours but managed only one sizeable pollack and dozens of mackerel. Several good cod took the jigs close to the bottom so it seemed logical to abandon the search for the finicky—on one day and off the next pollack—and baitfish for cod.

The captain searched for one of those humps with his recorder and when it was located we anchored. The first fish was hoisted to the surface within minutes of lowering baits to the bottom. But they weren't cod. Instead, we were pestered by large spiny dogfish.

"Keep fishing fellas, the way things have gone lately, we hit a mess of the doggies before the cod settle in." The captain's words of advice were correct and soon I felt the sharp tug of a cod after several raps from large bergalls.

Stu Miller and Mike Zarrella compare part of the day's catch.

The fish surprised me by making several strong lunges for the bottom taking line from a 4/0 reel with a stiff drag. While I did battle with my fish Stu Miller lifted his rod sharply against a strong hit.

"Snap!" The rod broke right above the reel but the fish was still on. After several moments of confusion in which Stu didn't know which end to grab first he settled down to fight the fish with a little help from our publisher Rich Reina.

When that cod finally became visible, five feet below the boat in the crystal clear water, it looked like an elephant instead of a fish. The gaff and codfish swung over the stern and Stu looked proudly at a real "hanger."

Terminal tackle is simple but effective. Two 7/0 hooks were snelled to 50 lb. test mono leaders. Each leader was

The mate cleans a cod that will delight at the dinner table tonight.

about 18 inches long. One was tied only a few inches above the sinker and the second was tied a foot or more above the first hook.

Lots of lead is needed to hold bottom in the strong currents around Block Island. Fourteen ounces did the trick today but during moon tides even more ounces are necessary. The angler always tries to get away with as little lead as possible in order to get as much of the fight as possible.

Many anglers wonder why the fishing can be so good at offshore Montauk grounds one day and so terrible the next. Of course the weather changes, including changes in air pressure and winds can negatively affect the feeding pattern of many fish, but I think bait is the key at Montauk.

When the spring cod season began, the fish were loaded with sandeels. I guess the dense clouds of sandeels attracted the pollack because they were filled with the baitfish too and the quality of the pollack fishing on most days was quite good. But at Montauk the various species of bait come and go with the seasons and as the waters slowly warmed many of the sandeels moved to new headquarters closer to the land. Tomorrow mullet, mackerel, squid, or some other delight to hold the gamefish.

The cod that we cleaned gave up digested remains of crabs, lobster, squid, and flounder. Stu's "hanger" contained three flounder in addition to the "smorgasbord" and one of the flounders would have weighed in at about a pound-and-a-half.

Such is the variety of Montauk fishing. By the time this piece goes to press there will probably be striped bass, fluke, seabass, blackfish, porgies, weakfish and even a smattering of bluefish to go with the offshore species.

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FLY TACKLE FOR THE SALT

by Don Avondolio

Generally associated with freshwater angling, fly fishing is recognized as one of the most popular ultra-light tackle systems. Some saltwater fishermen have confused and mixed emotions about fly tackle usually because of the larger and stronger fish commonly found in bay and ocean waters. Salt water fishermen have been accustomed to large 3/0 type reels, or spin crank types, combined with heavy, stiff rods used for casting or trolling. Naturally, there is a strong resistance to change if a system has proven successful in catching fish. But, to the inquisitive sport fisherman who is always looking for new methods of fishing, exciting moments can be experienced by using fly tackle in salt water.

An interesting fact is that almost all fish found in the saltwater environment can be caught and landed using saltwater fly tackle. A few outstanding catches of "Salty" fly rodders are bluefish of 14 pounds, striped bass of 32 pounds, and tarpon of 154 pounds, caught and landed using fly tackle. In addition to striped bass and bluefish, other Long Island area fish such as weakfish, fluke and mackerel are caught with flies, both inshore by boat and from the surf. These fish are usually caught when conditions of light winds prevail as fly casting is ideal, and when water is clear, flies are best visible.

The basic fundamental technique utilized in fly fishing is simple. The fly is cast using one or two false casts into the water. If surface action is present, the floating fly line is used with a leader attached to the fly for better presentation and line concealment. The line is then stripped in, by hand to hand motion from the stripping guide in one foot long jerks, giving the fly a darting, swimming type motion. When the fly is hit, the fish usually hooks himself and peels both slack and reel from the spool faster than you can imagine. From then on, your rod action and reel drag control takes over until the fish slows down or reverses direction. This signals you that it's time to reel the line as fast as possible, by lowering the rod, pumping and reeling slack line in. The alternating fish runs and reeling motions are continued until the fish is tired out and taken to capture. As you can see, fly fishing involves more line handling than usual, but once experience is gained, this becomes second nature.

The increased interest in salt water fly fishing probably has come about for several reasons. Innovations in fly tackle, the increased publications of good books and magazines on the subject, availablity of many fly casting schools, and salt water fly club expansions are but a few contributing factors. With the recent introduction of graphite constructed fly rods, many fishermen have found that these rods have increased casting distance and accuracy with reduced effort by decreasing weight. These rods are fairly expensive, but are growing in popularity, and have really challenged the standard fiberglass rod. In addition, the manufacture of many competitive, excellent fly lines at different price levels, has helped popularize this sport. Lines are available for almost any kind of fishing conditions that prevail in salt or fresh water.

As a guide, the following tackle should fit into almost any fly fishing situation encountered in the Long Island inshore area. For the enthusiastic new fly rodder, it would be wise to purchase equipment in the lower price range, until familiarity with techniques and equipment as been established.

Your rod should be constructed of tubular fiberglass in the 8 to 9 foot length range. Most important for salt water, the guides, ferrule, and reel seat should be made from a corrosive resistant material such as stainless steel, or anodized aluminum. Also remember that the more line guides on the rod, the better control of the line and even distribution of rod action. A locking reel seat is recommended to prevent loss of your reel and line. Rod vibrations are common during use and if your reel is not locked to the rod, it can vibrate loose. As an alternative, if the locking ring is not supplied, the reel mounting flange can be taped to the rod with water-proof vinyl tape. Excellent rods are manufactured by popularly known tackle companies such as Garcia, Shakespeare, Leonard, Scientific Anglers, Browning and Fenwick. Various rod line systems numbers have been established by these companies in order to balance rod to fly line for correct casting performance. If these system numbers are not marked on your fly rod, the Scientific Anglers Company publishes a chart correlating rod catalog number to line system number. This chart can be requested by mail and used as a reference to correctly balance your fly outfit. System 8, 9, or 10 will suffice most fishing conditions whether it be from surf or boat. System 8 represents the rod and line size which is used for small to medium fish, while the 9 or 10 system would be more adequate for larger species. Also consider that casting and working the lighter system will be less tiring to the average built fisherman, especially during long continuous periods of casting.

Fly reels are used for storage of line, leader, backing and are sold in single action, automatic retrieve, and multiplying gear types. Eliminate the automatic retrieve (line control is terrible), multiplying gear type (expensive, unless money is no object), and purchase a good single action type.

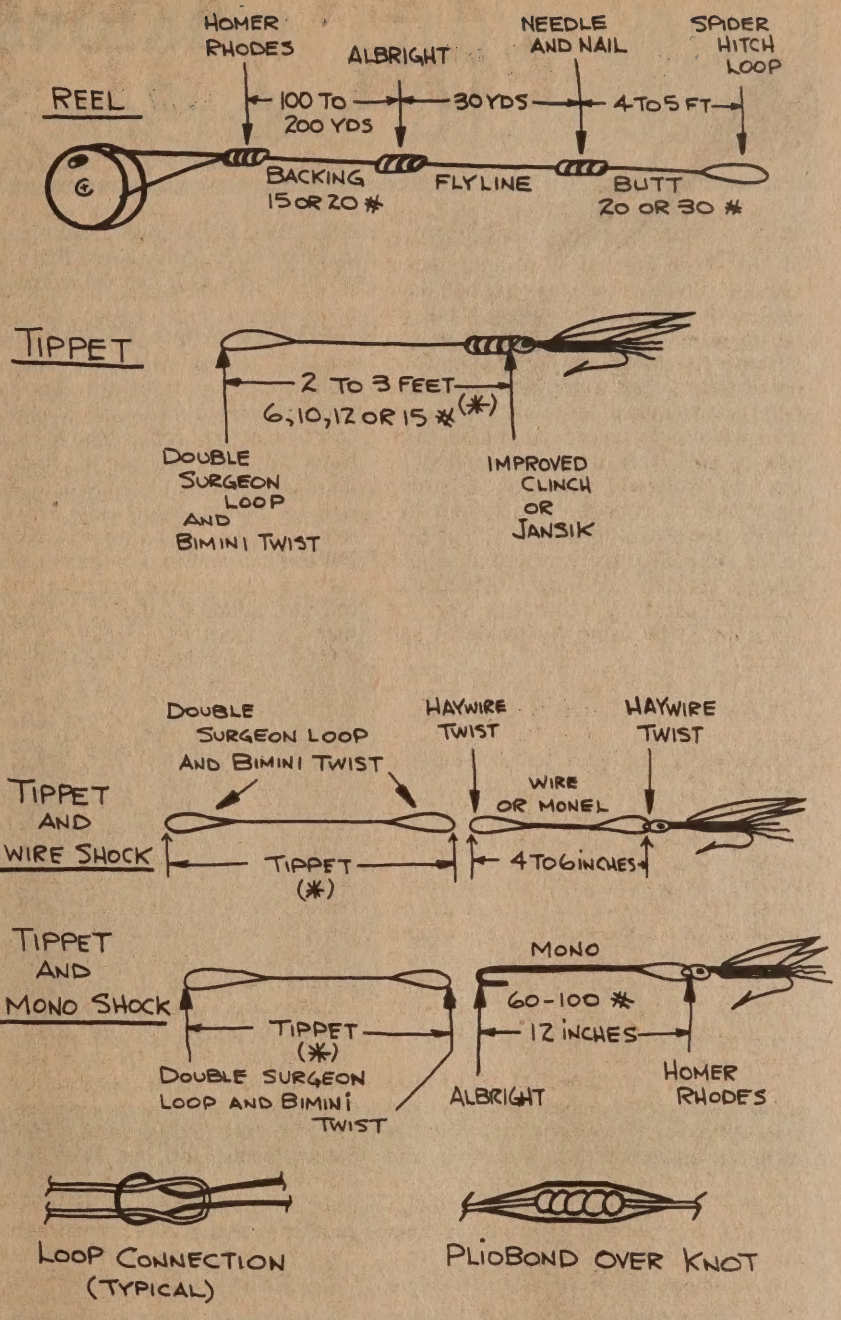
The single action type reel (1 to 1 ratio, which can be converted to left or right hand retrieve) is more than adequate for most fly fishing conditions. Suggested are the Pflueger 1498 Medalist, Gladding/South Bend 1155 Finalist or Garcia 768 reels. Reel drag control is of utmost importance in salt water, and should be set light enough that line is taken out when the breaking strength of tippet is reached and also tight enough that backing and line is not stripped off of reel easily. A typical fly line length is 30 yards added to at least 100 yards of 15 to 20 pound test backing. The backing should be dacron or squidding type line material, and is necessary for the long runs often common to the larger more powerful fish. Check with your dealer (or company catalog) that the reel spool capacity is sufficient for the footage of fly line system and backing chosen for your use. Also, a spare reel is a worthwhile investment for storing a second kind of fly line, or for quick replacement of tangled or damaged line. These spools are changed instantly by depressing a latch and sliding the spool off the arbor.

As mentioned previously, the fly line should agree with the rod system number, and is sold in many variations. A few of these are floating, sinking, and extra fast sinking. Most of your surf and inshore (boat) fishing will be on the surface or two to three feet below. A floating weight forward line is perfect for this situation, signified by WF-(system number(-F. If deeper, bottom fish are your objective, use extra fast sinking line, but be aware that casting will be tougher to handle as line pickup after the initial cast requires a special procedure.

The line must be taken in to approximately 16 feet of the rod tip and a roll cast executed to lift the line from beneath the water before a new cast can be made. This line is signified by WF-(system No.)-S; Hi-D by Scientific Anglers Co., is a good choice for this line type. However, if a casting distance (approx. double) beyond 60 feet is required or preferred use a shooting head floating line with approximately 100 feet of 20 to 30 pound test running line attached. This is signified by ST-(system no.)-F. Thirty feet of a weighted head is attached to a running line of smaller diameter. The front 30 feet basically carries out the smaller line when cast, which offers less weight resistance than the weight forward line. Lead core is basically another excellent type of shooting head, but is fairly complicated to cast and control, unless one is determined to experiment and gain experience with this line. Try to use lines manufactured by Scientific Anglers, Cortland, Garcia, or Berkley. The more expensive lines will offer you longer life and better casting performance when treated as instructed by the manufacturer.

Your leader should be constructed from fairly stiff nylon mono consisting of a permanent butt section, a quick removable tippet, and (shock leader when required). The leader total length varies to the individual, but I find that 8 feet of length butt to tippet is fine for most conditions. Different line test tippets can be stocked for quick replacement, or attached to your favorite fly patterns and stored for use. The wire constructed shock leader is normally used for bluefish, or mackerel because of the sharp teeth characteristic of these fish. In comparison, the heavy mono shock leaders are useful for fishing bottom where sand or rocks can cause line abrasion and possible breakage.

The knots used for preparing fly lines, backing, and leaders are particularly important, as the line takes more abuse and stress than in ordinary fishing. Lines are lighter than normal and fish are played longer, which really tests the knot strength. I would strongly recommend reading "Practical Fishing Knots" by M. Sosin and L. Kreh as an important introduction to fly fishing. Knots such as the Bimini Twist, Spider Hitch, Albright Special, are important in preparing your fly line assembly and are described clearly with step by step photographs in this book. Everyone knows that the knot is the weakest link in a line—well, the Bimini Twist when tied properly challenges this statement. This knot equal to 100% of line strength, actually doubles your line, and is recommended for the proper preparation of loops used for quick connection of tippet to butt. An improperly tied knot can reduce line strength by almost 50% of rating. Sketch #1 shows a representation of fly line and leader preparation, suggesting knots and showing the approximate lengths from reel to fly attachment. The tippets shown are attached to the butt loop as shown in the sketch. Pliobond, or a similar rubbery adhesive should be used on your knots to prevent hangup on guides or tip top. These knots pass through the guides at high speeds and can either dislodge a guide or break open when least expected.



Hooks should be Mustad 34007, stainless steel or Eagle Claw 254SS, size 1/0 thru 3/0 if possible or an equivalent style. Hook points must be sharpened to a triangular shape with a file before using, in order that three knife edges are formed at the point. Fly hooks are set into the fishes' mouth by quick, short strokes of the rod tip, which necessitates the knife cutting action of the hook point. Another popular style hook is the keel hook, which when used over bottom structure, helps prevent snagging by

(Continued on page 54.)

ASK THE CAPTAIN

OPINIONS & ANSWERS

by Capt. Ronnie Lepper

Question: Joe McCluskey, Englishtown, New Jersey.

I keep my boat at Sandy Hook New Jersey and find the bass fishing there very good, most of the season. For the past 2 or 3 seasons, the fall fishing is t what it used to be. It starts much later and does not last as long as other years. I would like to know what happened to those fish, where they have gone or is it just a lack of fish?

Answer:

First let me say that the problem is a combination of a few things, the most important being fewer fish. Some fisherman thought it a productive Fall, not realizing that their area was the only one with good fishing as compared to years ago when we all shared in decent fall fishing. Another problem is that the water is staying warmer longer. I've had good fishing right up to December when I quit, and left fish there. The bulk of the fish you are waiting for seem to be laying up around the Jones Beach-Fire Island area from October through late November along with the bunkers and sand eels. Up until 3 years ago, I would have been fishing your area by the last week of October or the latest, the first week of November. If you do not mind an approximately 2 hour boat ride, you can surely share this excellent fishing along with other New Jersey boats that I have seen there, the past two fall seasons.

Question: Mario Roig, Brooklyn, N.Y.

I would like to try making my own lures starting with surgical tubes. I have bought a few commercially made ones and I'm not impressed with the inconsistency of sizes, shapes and colors. If it's not a secret, could you give me some assitance in making my own?

Answer:

No, it is not a secret anymore, and I would be happy to advise you to the best of my knowledge. For all around bass and blue fishing I prefer a 15'' tube, (I'm not talking about umbrella rig lures or the jointed type.) The tube size I use and have been using for the past 15 years is 3/32 by ¼'' latex. I buy it in the natural amber color and dye it myself using either tintex or rit clothing dyd. I make my tail cut 2½'' from the rear of the tube and my head hook hole 2½'' from the front of the tube. This hole is made with a red hot ice pick for neatness and rip free service. I use 8/0 open eye stainless siwash hooks putting a husky swivel in the eye of the head hook before closing it up. I then close the eye of the tail hook, then join them together with 130 lb. test dacron line. The space between hooks should be 10½'' to fit perfectly, although a little longer won't hurt. Wet the tube before attempting to push the hooks through, as it makes it a lot easier. Stay with the basic colors and you can't go wrong. (Red, black, natural amber and green.) With the pre-mentioned colors, you will be ready for 99 percent of all situations.

Question: Richard Clarke, Bellmore, N.Y.

I started shark fishing last season and enjoyed it very much. We caught a few sharks, mostly duskys although nothing big and no makos. After reading about all the makos caught last season, I figured we had to be doing something wrong. I use Jones Inlet to go out, and usually fish at or near the H.A. buoy.

Answer:

Good shark fishing is a combination of 4 points. Time of year, water temperature, water conditions (clear or dirty) and the area. I fish the same basic area you do and had excellent success last year. We boated 17 makos on the first 14 charters, tagged 4 and broke off 9. We the 17 boated, 11 were 200 pounds or over. During the same 14 trip period we also caught numerous other species of shark. Most of the makos were caught in the month of July when the water temperature was between 67 and 69 degrees and clear. After checking my log, for the past 8 years, I find that most of my successful mako fishing has been under the same conditions. 120 feet of water is a steady number, 135 to 150 degrees out of Jones Inlet is a very productive area. I have caught some very big Tigers in that same area in late August, 500 to 600 pounds. Tigers seem to like warm water over 70 degrees. I feel my Dytek water temperature gauge is as important as taking rod and reels. Keep your own records and you will find a definite pattern between water temperature and shark fishing.

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MONTAUK REPORT

by Scott Simons

MONTAUK

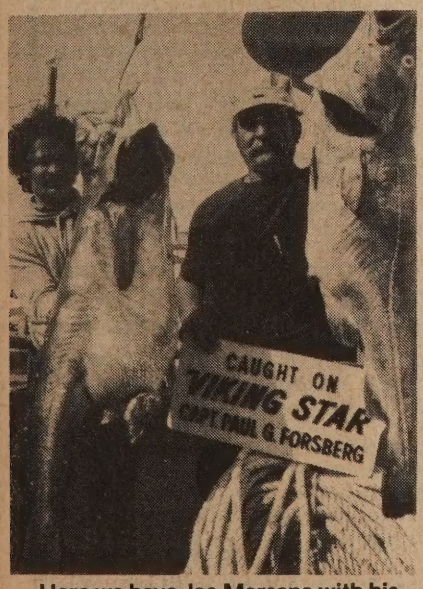
The action out at Montauk has been somewhat mixed, depending upon the species being sought. Sea bass remain excellent all around the Point and the entire south side area. Fluke are off to an excellent start and gaining momentum daily in both the North Rips and those in the Midway area. Blue sharks are now being taken in good quantities consistently south of the Point, and the Mako sharks and swordfish shouldn't be too far behind. A few bluefish have been taken in the Pollack Rip and first reports from the Submarine Buoy look like another good year there for the choppers. About the only big disappointment has been the striped bass, which are being marked on everyone's machines but just haven't been hitting right as yet, probably due to the tremendous amount of baitfish now in the water. Diamond jiggers seem to have had a slight edge over the trollers. The remaining boats seeking codfish are now concentrating on the Coxes Ledge area and offshore wrecks for their catches.

Capt. Richard Rade of the **Marlin III** reported excellent results splitting up the days with sea bass and fluke fishing. In the mornings 10 to 15 sea bass per man are being taken south of the Point, then it's a switch-over to fluke in the afternoon. Five to 15 fluke per man are being taken in the North Rips, and the pool fish on Saturday went 7 lbs.

Capt. Fred Bird of the **Flying Cloud** reports very good sea bass fishing for fish ranging from ¾ to 1½ pounds with an occasional 3 pounder thrown in. Saturday's fishing was a little picky, but fishing picked up considerably on Sunday in the "Spider Web" area south of the Lighthouse. Fred told us that he would continue with the sea bass until the porgies make their debut.

"Red hot fishing for blue sharks," is the word from Capt. John Sweetman of the charterboat **Ebb Tide**. The blue sharks are plentiful 12 to 14 miles southeast of the Light in 180-185 feet of water at the east end of the Butterfish Hole. The boat has been averaging six sharks a trip with several over 100 lbs. On Friday a great white shark came into the chum slick, looked at all the baits being offered and swam away . . . guess there's at least one white out there that hasn't seen the movie. John told us that they have been spotting quite a few giant sunfish offshore, which is the sign that usually means the Mako sharks and swordfish will be following shortly. The Captain also noted that the fluke fishing has been red hot this week. The fish are all good size with very few throwbacks. Best areas have been the North Rips and Midway, with Midway holding a quantity of larger fluke.

Here is the fine catch of seabass at Montauk. The fish were caught off Kings Point on squid by Capt. Ed Hegner, Capt. Mark Morose and mate Mike Drucker.



Here we have Joe Marcano with his 62 lb. hake and John Juzefyk with his 50 lb. cod. Both were pool winners on the Viking Star on 5/29. Photo courtesy of the Viking Star.

"Super fluking job on incoming water Sunday," was Capt. Brad Glas' enthusiastic reply to our telephone query, "Is your father home, sonny?" The fluke fishing for the **Helen II** has been very good in the North Rips and adjoining areas with very few throwbacks and the pooler usually in the 8 or 9 lb. category. Squid and spearing combinations have been the productive bait and a few nice sea bass are also mixed in with the flatties. Brad advised against private-boat fishermen trying to mix the day with both sea bass and fluke fishing . . . unless you really know the tides and currents in the area, invariably you will end up in the wrong place at the right tide or the wrong tide in the right place, or vice versa. Anyhow, fluking is now very good if you just stick it out.

The pool winners on the May 24th Nantucket wreck trip were Harold Buchter with a 62 lb. cod and Tom Fleming with a 59 lb. hake both caught aboard the Viking Star.

Capt. John DeMaio of the charterboat **Vivienne** has been the most consistent with the striped bass, using Diamond jigs. On Friday, John went out by himself after a party that didn't even leave a deposit failed to show up without so much as a phone call. But John managed to save the day by taking 16 bass totaling 190 pounds on Diamond jigs that afternoon. On Saturday, Guy DiBlasio, Don Benedetto and Bob Traut had a charter and took ten stripers up to a very respectable 33 lbs. Don B. took the big cow on an 8-ounce Ava diamond jig. Sunday morning only two bass were managed, but both were in the 25 lb. category. On a second trip Sunday afternoon, seven stripers and three bluefish took the jigs. John, whose specialty is bass fishing with diamond jigs and bucktails, told us that the big groundswell all week prevented him from getting close enough to the beach to do any casting.

Henry Colombi of the **Star Island Yacht Club**, where the new Long Island Fisherman boat is now berthed, confirmed the good fishing for sharks, sea bass and fluke but had little bass information to pass on. On Saturday, John V. of the private boat **Meditation** took two blue sharks to 80 pounds on Saturday 20 miles south of the Point in 180 feet of water. Jean Leairo, 12 years-old, showed the folks aboard the boat **Say Fish** how to do it when she whipped a blue shark of 136 pounds. The **Miss Behave** took a gamble and went to the Submarine Buoy over the weekend

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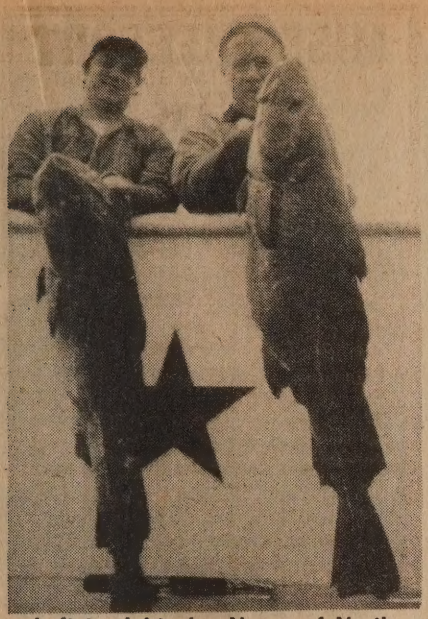


Left to right; Joe Nunes of North Babylon with his 37¾ lb. cod and Loyd Swensen of Brooklyn with his 57 lb. 15 oz. cod. Both were taken aboard the Peconic Queen III out of Montauk. Loyd took this cod plus 5 other fish and also the $227 pool. Photo courtesy of the Peconic Queen III.

while everyone else was trolling around the Great Eastern area and was rewarded with 14 bluefish averaging about 8 lbs. each. The **Bumble Bee** also ventured to the Sub Buoy and trolled about the same number. Walter Kaprielian of the **Blue Beard** took 18 fluke up to 6 lbs. in the North Rips area. The **Dave S II** scored with a mixed bag of about 20 nice sea bass, 4 porgies and a few flounder on Washington Shoals.

Capt. Mike Bock of the charterboat **Super Shark** called to confirm the super-excellent fishing for blue sharks that broke open over the weekend. On Thursday eight blue sharks were taken; on Friday, Robert Heldman and a party from New Jersey had ten sharks; Saturday's tally was 8 blue sharks, and on Sunday a party headed by Pete Ramos took seven. A few jumbo bluefish have also been coming into the chum slick.

The first trip of the season for the shark charter boat **Modar I** resulted in six blue sharks, the first ever caught by the anglers aboard. The action was fast and furious with several double hook-ups on Sunday. Capt. Pete Van Alst also told us that Capt. Frank Mundus of the **Cricket II** had a great white shark that he estimated to be in the 3000 lb. range come into the chum slick late in the day. The fish was baited, but was not interested. The hot shark action has been southeast of the Point, 30 miles out in 190 to 200 feet of water.

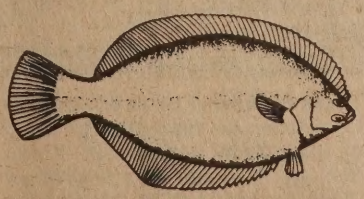
Capt. Ronnie D'Albora of the **Gone Fishing Marina** called to tell us of the excellent flounder fishing off Culloden Point and Rocky Point. Leo Salvatore and his wife, Joan, and yound Scott Braddick took over 40 flounder up to 3½ lbs. with the average fish about 2½ lbs. They also had a bushel basket full of nice sea bass up to 3 lbs. Chumming with clam bellies or mussels is a must for the flounder. Ronnie also told us that their rental skiffs are taking 20 to 30 fluke in the North Rips. Ron's son, Danny, took a mess over the weekend, including two that went 5 and 6 lbs.

Capt. Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** reported that the sea bass fishing was excellent all week with many jumbos up to 4 pounds being taken south of the point. High hook during the week was Tom Burke of the Bronx, with 102 fish. Saturday and Sunday fishing was very good despite the big groundswell. Benny McPherson of the Bronx was high hook with 68 fish. Cod, hake, pollack, porgies, flounder, fluke, blackfish plus the first bluefish of the season were also taken on the bottom.

Frida at the **Cove Marina** told us that the striped bass fishing has been poor, with the boats really scratching just to boat just a few fish. Fluke fishing during the week was excellent with fish up to 8 pounds taken, but the fishing was down on the weekend due to the heavy boat traffic. Flounder fishing at Rocky Point has been super with fish up to 3 pounds all of the fish were big and fat. Sea bass fishing also excellent south of the Point, one weighed in at 3¾ pounds. Frederick Marshall took a 41 pound striped bass from the surf that he brought into the Cove for mounting at Island Marine Taxidermy. The surfcasters have been doing better than the boats with bass at Shagwong and around the Lighthouse.

Capt. Ronnie Grandinetti of the charterboat **Julie II** had a party of three headed by Ray Levine out on Saturday and they caught 330 pounds of seabass up to 3¾ pounds. Four blackfish up to 9¾ pounds were also taken at the Frisbee area.

Captain Les Behan of the **Peconic Queen III** called to say that the codfishing is very good and steadily improving on Coxe's Ledge. This past week there were two fish over 57 pounds that were brought over the side, amongst many other medium and large codfish. The Queen is fishing the far east end of Coxe's Ledge and it takes the Queen only 2 hours and 10 minutes to reach Coxe's. Les will be fishing there every day. Friday was the only poor day during the week, due to lack of wind and no tide movement. Thursday and Saturday were fantastic days says Les with steady and big fish being caught.



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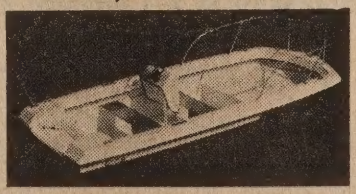

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The FISHERMAN

SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

PROMISED LAND

Art Brand at the **Promised Land Fishing Station** said that fishing in general has been on the slow side. Flounder fishing seems to be declining with more blacks than flounder being caught while flounder fishing. Blackfishing is very good at Eastern Plains Point. Porgies are starting to show and should be in within a week or two. The area has lots of small sand eels of 2½ inches.

SHINNECOCK

On Friday this reporter contacted the **Clam Man** on CB radio while the clam man was returning from South Hampton He told me that fishing was spotty and to quote him it was lousy. He took 3 weaks by the inlet, 2 blues outside of the inlet and 2 fluke on the inside. All of the fish were taken on bait.

C. Altenkirch's Tackle reports striped bass fishing at the inlet and the Ponoquogue Bridge has been pretty good for bucktailers using pork rind. They weighed one in that went 29 pounds. Fluke fishing in the canal and in the Shinnecock Bay is better than half keepers all being taken on squid, shiners or sand eels. Weakfishing and porgies are a so-so proposition. The gillnetter are sill picking up weaks filled with roe. Joe Disigni trolled umbrella rigs on the outside of the inlet this weekend and picked up 30 blues to 9½ pounds. Mickey says that there are plenty of sand eels in the water.

HAMPTON BAYS

Big Mike of the **Skippers Fishing Sation** says the fluke fishermen has a

These 16 fluke of up to 6¾ pounds were taken on sandeels and squid by buoy 39 by anglers Bill Sr and Bill Jr. Romano of Hauppauge. Photo courtesy of Silly Lily Fishing Station.

John and Mark Riemann, and Rich Richard and Eric Luhrs caught 62 flounder and some blowfish between bouy's 39 and 42 using bloodworms. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

sensational weekend. Joe Podretti the maitre'd of Joe's Pier 52 in NYC fished in front of the station and stopped counting after he had 46 keepers. These fluke went up to 2½ pounds and were taken on sand eels and squid on Sunday. On Saturday Wendell Craig and Bill Tomack both of Greenpoint fished buoys 18 and 20 and took 55 keeper fluke between them. Bill has 1 that went 8 pounds 2 ounces. All of the above fishing was done on a rising tide but Bill and Wendell took a fair amount while trolling with sand eels and squid on the falling tide.

Bradley's Fishing Station reports good fluke fishing with sizes of 15 and 16 inches right in front of the station. These fish are hitting on a rising tide and taking squid mostly.

MORICHES BAY

Larry at **L & M Marine** said that the fluke fishing has tapered off. The keepers are about 2 out of 3. For those who went flounder fishing, did pretty well. David Free and Bruce Wallis took 40 flounders on bloodworms at the Old Cut.

Moriches Bait and Tackle reports pretty good fluke fishing but they are spread out over the bay. The channel between buoys 19 to 25 is pretty good as well as the inlet area and both cuts. Further east buoy 42 is producing. Most of this fishing is with live killies. There are scattered and spotty catches of blues in the bay. These fish are 2 to 3 pounds and are not a sure bet as of yet. At the inlet area striped bass of 10 pounds and up are being taken on live eels mostly by the boaters. There are very few weakfish in the bay.

MASTIC BEACH

Stiriz's Fishing Station reports the weakfishing has slowed down quite a bit but everything else is moving along nicely. Bass are being chummed on clam bellies at the Smith Point Bridge. These are schoolies 10 to 12 pounds taken on incoming in the evening and at night. There is very good fluking with keepers 1 out of 3, from buoys 17-21 in the channels and on the flats on sand eels, spearing, squid and strip baits, particularly sea robin belly. Tim Dipasquale had a 5 pound 3 ounce fluke and his brother took a 7½ pound bluefish. Blues are very active, with top catch of the week going to Don Harrington with 18 blues up to 5½ pounds on popping plugs and Rebel type swimmers in mid-day at the start of incoming. Some blueclaws around.

WEST SAYVILLE

Young's Fishing Station reports weakfish have been weak. It's mainly fluke right now on squid and sand eels at Sailors Haven and Heckscher. Ocean Beach is the best bet now for weakfish on plastic shrimp and squid.

South Bay Fishing Station reports that Saturday and Sunday were fair days with the best being during the week at buoy 19, which is south of buoys 4 and 5. It has become ahot spot for weakfish using salty dogs, both pink and green with squid strip. Fluke and blues, some sea robins and a few kingfish, are also in this locale. Spearing is also producing fluke. Weakfish hours are best in the morning before the boat traffic begins.

American Sportsman Center reports weaks on a flood tide on rubber shrimp and Twister lures at Sailors Haven. Blues are being chummed and trolled inside at the inlet on surge tubes. Dickerson's Channel is producing fluke and weakfish on sand eels during the week.

Rudy DeMaria of Selden caught these bass in the Port Jeff vicinity on a small diamond jig. The bass weighed in at 8 and 9½ lbs. Photo courtesy of the Anglers Den.

Olive and Harold Young of the Bronx with flounders and seabass they took on bloodworms. The fish were taken on the incoming tide on the north side pier. Photo courtesy of the Store.

OAKBEACH

The **Store** weighed in bass of 46 pounds, 38 pounds and 24 pounds for sharpshooter Dennis Rooney, taken in the Wantagh Bridge area in the early morning hours on live bunker. Several fish also broke off. Dennis was fishing from the marsh. Blues have been in the mouth of the inlet on Saturday Night and Sunday morning and some have been taken on Hopkins and poppers. Fluking has been fair on squid and sand eels on the north side of the parkway. Flounder has slowed. Weaks are good at West Island and Ocean Beach with Salty Dogs in the shallows at the top of the flood and the beginning of the ebb. The **Store** will have live bass eels by this weekend in its new 100 gallon tank.

OAKDALE

Howie's Fishing Station reports Charlie Eisenhardt and Jim Grier had 52 weaks up to 6¾ pounds using shrimp chum on incoming between buoys 28 and 31.. Eileen Rayno of Oakdale took an 8 pound weakfish at buoy 13 on a pink shrimp jig. John Saranoff of New Jersey had 19 weaks at buoy 24 on white Salty Dogs tipped with squid, largest 8½ pounds.

EAST ISLIP

Don at **Wet-A-Line Bait and Tackle** tells us of blackfish on the Kismet Reef on fiddler crabs, fish going to 10 pounds. These are best at high slack and an hour

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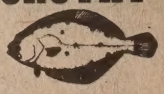

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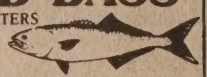

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on both sided. Bluefish in Dickerson's Channel along with weakfish in the morning hours all week, hitting Rebels and Red Fins.

BAY SHORE

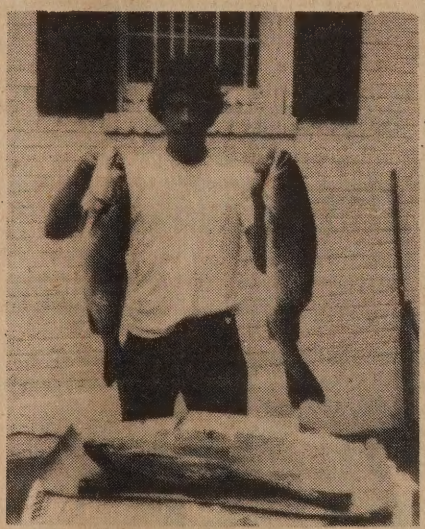
Smokey's Bait and Tackle reports fluke good at West Island Inlet near South Beach on sand eels and squid. Blacks very good at the Kismet Reef on fiddlers. Weaks and blues out front at the radio mast and also at the Kismet Reef on Pussy Cat lures and 7/8 ounce Striper Swipers with mackerel finish. Fair catches of crabs were seen at the Bayshore Marina. Smokey's weakfish Contest closes on June 15th, so enter soon.

CAPTREE

The **Lady Ann** reports that fluke fishing has slowed this week but that the draggers report a large body of fluke, which are new recruits about 2 miles south of the inlet, which should be here within one week. Sea bass fishing is excellent and on Saturday fishing the Fire Island Ocean Reef, fares averaged 20 to 30 sea bass per man, from 1 to 3 pounds. Al Fay of Massapequa was hi-hook with 47 sea bass and a few cod and ling.

The **Captain Eddy B** also reports a slowing of the fluke activity due to the storm and ground swell, but that he looks for it to improve with some moderating weather. New schools of fluke are due to move in as are bluefish. Eddy will be running the **Captain Joseph II** on thier 3:30 P.M. afternoon trips.

Captain Carl Bauer of the **Captain Whittaker** said that the fluke fishing was fair on Saturday with 4 or 5 keepers per man an average. There aren't too many shorts, with about 70 percent of the fish keepers. Sunday's fishing was slower due to the rain and wind. Best area has been from Ocean Beach to the Robert Moses Bridge on both sides of the change of tide. Spearing or sand eels are working best as bait, and Carl noted that the fluke have now moved into the shallower waters of the bay. On Sunday, a ten pound doormat was lost right at the boat when the leader parted before the mate could get a net under him.



These 7 lb. 4 oz. and 6 lb. 8 oz. weakfish were taken by Dan Nolan while fishing aboard the Capt. Scotty out of Captree on May 29th. Both were taken on 6 lb. test with a Pink Salty Dog tipped with squid. Subscriber's Club Photo.

This 9 lb. 8 oz. fluke was taken by Joe DiPrima of Farmingdale while fishing aboard the "Sea Rose" out of Seaford. Photo courtesy of Augie's Bait and Tackle.

The **Captain Rod** also reported tough fluking on Sunday because of the poor weather that brought the wind against the tide and effected the drifting. Saturdays fishing was fair around Ocean Beach and the Bridge. Almost all of the fish are keepers, with more throwbacks around the Robert Moses Bridge than Ocean Beach. The Captain told us that they saw a private boat take a fluke estimated at 12 to 14 pounds off Ocean Beach during the week. Best bait has been killie and squid combo fished around the change of the tide.

BABYLON

Hi-Hook Fishing Station reports that the fluking is fair, 6 to 8 keepers per boat. Hi-hook for the week was 15 keeper fluke and 6 weakfish taken at Snake Hill and Dickersons late in the day on Saturday. The blues are running 2½ to 3 pounds, as are the fluke.

Babylon Fishing Station reports fluke in the State Channel, Snake Hill Channel and off the Coast Guard Station on sand eels and squid. A good bet has been weakfish near West Island from 8 to 11 a.m. Blues up to 3 pounds have been taken between buoys 4 and 5 on swimming plugs on the east side of the long bridge.

LINDENHURST

The prize winning weakfish in the South Shore Marlin and Tuna Club Tournament is in the freezer at Island Taxidermy, and in short order, Tony Romano, proprietor of Island Taxidermy

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will make another beautiful mount.

The **Lazy Day II** skipper, Captain Bob reports that fluking was fair this past week and that snapper blues ranging from 2 to 4 pounds and a few small weakfish are being taken along with the fluke. Hot spots are off Ocean Beach and fluking will be picking up even better as the water warms more. Bob still has a few weekend dates still open for July, including July 4th and mentioned his special low evening and weekday rates for June still apply.

Captain Jay Porter of the **bullet** out of the Anchorage reports that his bookings are still rolling in at a rapid rate and advises reserving at least 3 weeks in advance if you want to get in on his co and tile trips. Jay also advises that for those fishing with him for tile, that they spool up with wire line instead of mono. The combination of no-stretch and feeling everything makes for better catches.

Duke's Bait and Tackle reports that stripers are picking up and that Fire Island Inlet and the State Channel is producing for live liners, chummers, and wire lined jiggers. Best bass catch to date weighed in at Duke's is by angler Pete Hession of Copiague with a 43.2 pound bass taken on live bunker in the State Channel. The surf is producing also, but no bonanza's or blitzes on the beach as of yet. Bluefishing is hot offshore from 100 to 130 feet of water, fish going 8 to 10 pounds, being chummed. Big blues are at Sandy Hook and will be in local waters by the weekend, with a lot of 2 to 3 pound blues in our bays now being chummed and jigged with plastic shrimp. Weaks are very good but only in early morning and late evening hours, and you've got to find them or they have to find you. Blacks are tapering off but are good along with flounder at the Sore Thumb. Tuna have been spotted at the HA buoy. These are 50-100 pound class fish. Fluking remains very good as long as the day is not windy. Fire Island Inlet, the State Channel, Snake Hill Channel are

CAPTREE

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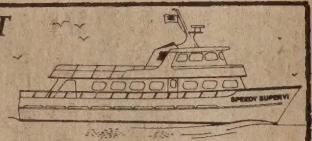
SPEEDY VI



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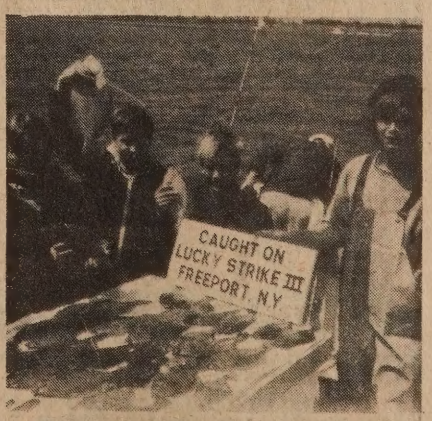
out at **Port of Egypt Marine.**

Jonas Bait and Tackle reports that Lou Clement and Dave Kempter had 20 weakfish and 5 blues taken at around 6 a.m. on Sunday at Dickerson's Channel on the "Night Mare". The bait was Viking Shrimpies. Angler Bill Taylor of Copiague bagged a 6.12 pound weak along with 3 nice fluke off the Copiague Pier on live killies and squid strip. New York City Patrolman Doug Nederost and 4 pals all from the 13th Pricinct nailed 40 blues south of the inlet in 60 feet of water on Friday with bunker chum and butterfish on the hook. Flounder at the Sore Thumb on bloodworms.

George Combs Bait and Tackle reports blues 1 to 4 pounds in the East West Channel and West Island on plastic shrimp, diamond jigs and live killies. Fluking very good in most back bay holes and channels, anchored with bunker chum in pots and killies or spearing on the hook. Excellent blues at Snake Hill Channel, Dickerson's Channel and West Fire Island on lures or bunker chum. Bass in local spots on plugs, bucktails or clam bellies. A few big ones have been taking live eels. Also trolled spoons or Sekora Triple Header purple tubes in 45 feet of water off Tobay. Bob Wenco of Massapequa had 8 blues and an 18 pound bass off Ocean Beach on his new bunker spoon rod. Local hot shot "Frenchy" took a 31 pound striper on a live eel in the State Channel at Zach's Bay this week.

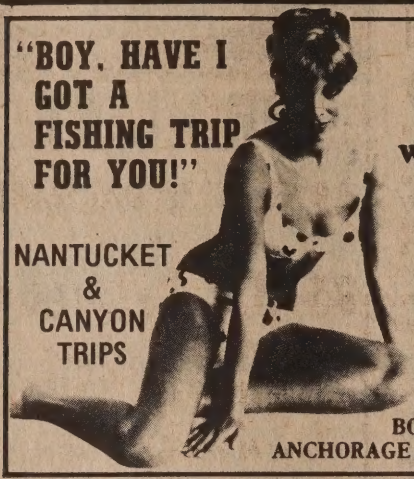
SEAFORD

Lon Wanser Bait and Tackle weighed in 5 stripers on Sunday from 12 to 16½ pounds taken between Jones Tower and the Inlet on Lupo bunker spoons and yellow Danny plugs, all trolled along the beach by anglers Ron Shimborsky, Bill Crandall and Bob Sauer of Massapequa. Jim Rose and son had a 13 pound bass at the 3rd Wantagh Bridge on whole

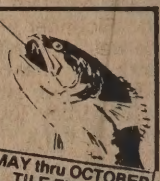


These are the flounders taken aboard the Lucky Strike III on a recent trip. The flounders ranged from ½ to 2½ lbs. and were taken on worms.

LINDENHURST



BULLET



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bunker. Lonnie Wanser himself had 2 bass at the entrance of Zach's Bay up to 10¾ pounds on a Creek Chub Popper in the late afternoon during this past week. Joe Gibbons had 3 weaks on Thursday night in the State Chanel up to 9½ pounds on clam and clam chum in the dark. Flounder are still around with the area west of the Wantagh Draw Bridge, where the channels intersect, working best. Lots of short fluke in with the keepers from Squaw to West Island on sandeels and killies.

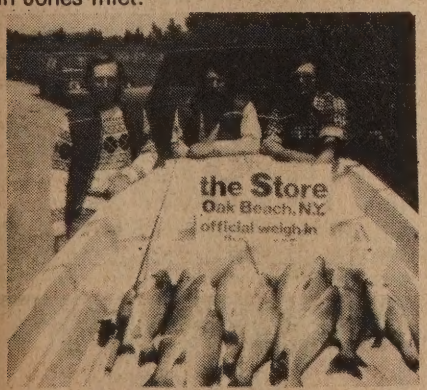
Captain Eddie's Fishing Station also reports good flounder west of the drawbridge, with one customer bagging 30 on the flood, from 1 to 1½ pounds. The 3rd bridge also produced a 15 pound striper taken on clam chum in the dark on Saturday.

BELLMORE

Frank at **Merrick Marine Supplies** in Bellmore tells us that Ed Ferret of East Bay Anglers took a 30.4 pound striper from Jones Inlet on a live bunker Friday night. Morning and at Dusk is producing fair numbers of fish on bunker and eel. Sand worms rang the bell for East Bay Anglers Al Stern with weakfish at Heckscher early Friday morning, putting 31 big weaks in the box.

MERRICK

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** tells us that the bass are starting and he weighed in a 22 and 25 pound fish taken east of the Wantagh Bridge on a drifted live bunker for angler Marty Bright taken in the early daylight hours. Lenny Baum and Joe Dymond had 15 bass in 2 days fishing Sandy Hook and Romer Shoals, trolling Lupo spoons, Danny plugs and Allmighty Squids. Fluke have been getting smaller, with loads of throwbacks along with some keepers locally. Broad and Ned's Creek along with Funday Bridge are your best bets. On Saturday, the infamous G. Korn, accompanied by two midgets bounced around Merrick and Freeport back bays trying to get a few fish. They came back with a total of 4 keeper fluke. G. Korn, a CPA had no trouble counting his catch. Jimmy also reports blues offshore for chummers, and sea bass taking a hook in Jones Inlet.



Mike Semtoff, Ken Higgins and Jordan Cohen caught these weakfish on the outgoing tide on white salty dogs at bouy 13. Photo courtesy of the Store.

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

The Lucky Strike III reports good fluke fishing in Jones Inlet. He had the Double T Fishing Club organized by Steve Kearney of Seaford out on Sunday. They drifted with squid, killies and sand eels and had good catches of fluke to 4 pounds. Steve was the winner with a 4½ pound fluke until the last fish of the day came aboard when he lost out by several ounces.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports that Swift Creek produced well for anglers Frank Oshinski and pal George and Ray to the tune of 35 flounder from 1 to 2 pounds along with some sea bass taken on tape worm and clam on incoming, Sunday. Fluking is good in Long Creek, Swift Creek and Reynolds Channel on Sand eels and squid with blackfish at the bridge.

Starstream II reports excellent sea bass fishing, the best in years, with fish up to 4 pounds. Most are from 1 to 2 pounds with an occasional big pool winner along with blacks. Captain Richie is fishing about 1 hour from the dock, and catches per man are running 25 to 75 fish.

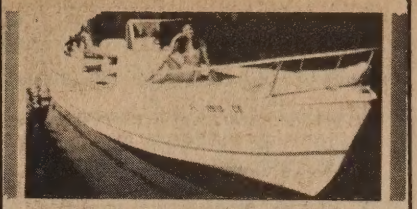
The **Captain Al** also reports very good sea bass and ling catches on local wrecks. A few blues are being taken on the evening trips. See their ad in LIF for the days and times that they are running for the choppers.

The **Aloma II** has been enjoying good fluking both locally and off Riis Park while Captain John on the **Aloma** has been doing very well with the sea bass.

The **Captain Hall** reports Monday through Friday's fluking locally was very good, with Tuesday and Friday being exceptional. For the week, lo-man was 8 keepers with 16 keepers as hi-hook. It was a rough weekend with the weather causing reduced catches. Dick Hall is fishing outside the inlet now.

Captain Sy of the **Bluefin** says that if you can't get the fluke, get the flounder, which is what he did over the weekend. On Saturday, he had the Maspeth Masonic Lodge in local waters for over 150 flounder, with the pool fish going nearly 2 pounds. This was on sand eels and squid and cooked kernel corn for chum. On Sunday they had a few fluke, but went for flounder in the afternoon with roughly 50 flounder taken, the pool fish weighing over 1½ pounds. Sunday, was a rough day all around. Captain Sy's new boat is expected within a couple of weeks.

Captain John on the **Miss Freeport** had a poor day on Sunday due to the grass and ground swell conditions but did well Monday through Saturday on the fluke fishing both inside and outside with fish up to 4 pounds.



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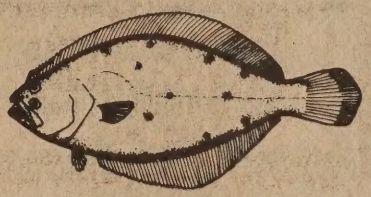
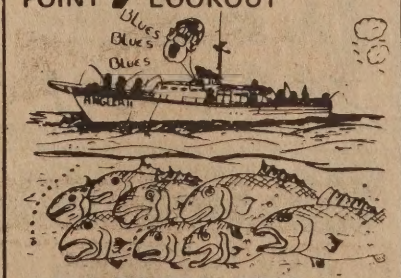


POINT LOOKOUT

Angler II
POINT LOOKOUT



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The first lunker of the year for Copiague Captain Pete Hession of the Jawbreaker was this 43 lb. 2 oz. bass weighed in at Dukes Tackle in Lindenhurst. Live bunker and the third Wantagh bridge did the trick.

The **Captain Lou II** reports fluking remained pretty good all week, with hi-hook being 8 fish. Lou expects a good season on the fluke and is fishing the inlet, Reynolds Channel, and the entrance buoy. Sea bass are mixed in to his catches.

POINT LOOKOUT

Ed's Fishing Station reports fluking was good for those that went out. Fluke was a fair size and keepers remained at better than half. Fluking is good from Ed's station to the inlet and in Funday Bay. 2 striped bass of 18 and 20 pounds were trolled on tubes at the Meadowbrook bridge. Blacks are also being caught at this same location along with numerous sea bass. Blues have been taken at the Cholera Bank.

ISLAND PARK

Captain Bob Foley of the **Debi** a member of the Atlantic Beach Charter and Guide Boat Fleet is starting night bass trips from 3 P.M. to 9 P.M. and on Thursday night hung 8 bass and 4 bluefish, bass up to 28 pounds, blues from 8 to 10 pounds. Two bass fell for Lupo spoons and everything else tried to eat up white and yellow Danny plugs. The charter was for angler Bob Moore.

Captain Ronnie Lepper of the **Kim** from the Atlantic Beach Charter and Guide Boat Fleet is also running night trips as a new feature. This past week Lou Durso and 3 pals bagged 13 bass from 15 to 25 pounds at Sandy Hook aboard the **Kim**, fishing spoons until dark and white Danny plugs after dark. Sandy Hook produced well through the weekend, though due to the quantity of boats, it was hard to fish properly. The Kim had 6 fish on Saturday from 15 to 20 pounds and at Breezy Point they are doing a job on live bait and also bucktailing on incoming.

Captain Don of the **Shearwater**, also a member of the Atlantic Beach Charter and guide Boat Association fished Romer Shoals on Friday for Rick and Dave Barry of Colorado, taking 5 bass up to 27 pounds along with a few blues up to 10 pounds on White Trolled Danny plugs. On Sunday, same area Frank Cornetta and party of Garden City got an 18 pound bass along with several bluefish 8 to 10 pounds. The blues are moving in. This whole catch was on gold colored Danny plugs.

Phil Forelli hoists a 34 lb. bass which was the first of six taken last Sunday on the charterboat "Shearwater" out of Long Beach. A larger Danny Plug did the trick off the N.J. Highlands. Photo by Captain Don Eichin.

The **Commodore** reports fair fishing on Saturday and Sunday, fishing off Riis Park, the majority of the fish being keepers. Monday through Friday was very good for fluke off Riis Park, 10 to 12 fish per man. Sunday's ground swell caused the fishing to suffer along with the lack of wind for a good drift. The fish were there but the bottom was so roilled up that they couldn't see your bait and also got free food from the bottom. Captain Clem anticipates excellent fluking in the weeks to come.

JAMAICA BAY

John at **Crossbay Rod and Gun** reports Mario Soldaro, Douglas Pochard and Billy Wilson took 6 striped bass to 12½ pounds at the Tin Can Grounds. They fished whole live bunker on late Thursday nite. At Breezy Point 3 anglers Andy Galeano, John Paladine and Richie Gilanze fished bunker chunks from the beach early Friday morning. They had 5 striped bass to 30 pounds. Lots of blacks along the beach at Rockaways and fluke are coming in strong at Riis Park. These fluke occasionally show up on the inside.

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These four bass were taken by three men; Arthur Raskin of Bellmore, Ted Zucker of Merrick and Don Mester also of Merrick on Lupo spoons. All were taken while fishing aboard the "Kim".

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Sal at **Stella Maris Bait and Tackle** reports striped bass fishing took a big up surge at the Tin Can Grounds and along the Jersey shore. Blackfishing along with sea bass continues to do well on the wrecks. He says that there has been a very very few fluke taken and even fewer flounder this past week.

Salvo's Bait and Tackle reports monstrous blues to 14 pounds being taken on spoons and umbrella rigs from Nortons Point to Hoffman Island and West Bank. Joe himself took 3 blues of 9 to 13½ pounds on Friday night. Big striped bass are also being taken there on the same rigs. On the bottom bunker dunking is terrific for striped bass. From Coney Island to the Verranzano Bridge there are numerous small fluke hitting squid and spearing. Blackfish in the same area on clam or fiddlers. For those that want them, there are plenty of blue claw crabs along the bulkhead.

Captain Butch on the **Zephyr** reports very good sea bass action, filling the pails of happy fishermen all week. Between 20 and 50 porgies per trip on the boat along with one blue. Fish are mixed sizes.

The **Dorothy B** reports poor fluking on the weekend due to the teriffic ground swell which stirred up the bottom. Friday saw six to eight keepers per man, which should pick up even more with good conditions. Captain Kevin asks us to inform you that he has his own fluke tournament going, this being the third year of his fluke tournament with weekly and fluke season prizes being awarded.

Captain Tom on the **Pilot II** is doing his usual destruction act on the blackfish and sea bass off the jersey coast. Captain Fred on the **Amberjack IV** had a productive offshore wreck trip on Saturday, with the big catch being bluefish which fred said were swarming over the wrecks. There were many double headers. The Amberjack will be starting night bluefishing this Friday night and it will continue every night except Sunday.

The **Eagle** is now fluking and also has a fluke derby underway which is $500 and growing. This derby ends September 12th '76. First prize will be half the money plus trophy, second prize will be 30 percent plus trophy, 3rd prize will be 20 percent plus trophy. The **Eagle** is after sea bass all week and did well and will now be fluking the rockaway shore and Gedney channel, past Ambrose.

The **Helen H** is enjoying good catches of sea bass and blacks, 20 to 50 per man, mixed sizes, fishing Sea Bright as some blues are mixed in with the catch, Captain Huck will start bluefishing trips this Friday night and will continue 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. bluefishing trips daily.

The **Captain Dom** reports sea bass slow on Saturday with the southeast winds but picked up on Sunday. The pool fish went 2 pounds. There are porgies on the reef but it will be a couple of weeks until genuine porgy time.

Captain Wregge on the **Chief**, the areas 10 o'clock boat had very good fishing for sea bass and whiting on Friday, Saturday and Sunday with a few fluke mixed in. Fifteen to twenty sea bass per man was average and Harold is doing his thing off the Jersey coast.

Blue Sea II is now fluking off Riis Park and reports good catches, better during the week as the weekend had a big heave on. Monday through Friday there were 10 to 12 keepers per man with the weekend dropping to 5 to 6 per man. A parallel drift to the beach is best.

The **Flamingo II** is enjoying good catches of sea bass along with blacks and some whiting.

The **Jonny K II** had 4 bass on Thursday from 10 to 20 pounds on White Danny plugs and umbrella rigs for a Mr. Fong and pals. Some bluefish from 3 to 12 pounds were also taken. John reports that bunker dunkers did great at Romer Shoals.

Charterboat **Babe** fished off Riis Park on Saturday with regulars Al, Harry, Marv and Steve for a fair days catch. Captain Ken reports that the Babe is now sailing regularly for fluke and features low weekday rates, trips by appointment only. See ad for details.

STATEN ISLAND

Lenny at **Santo's Sport Shop** said it is unbelievable the fishing that is going on in Rariton Bay. Blues are a speciality prolific from the Verranzano Bridge to Princess Bay. These are not small fish but go up to 16 pounds with the average running 8 to 12 pounds. You can fish for these with almost any artificial or natural bait. From Hoffman Island to the Verranzano Bridge striped bass of 12 to 15 pounds with some smaller and some larger are being taken on the outgoing tide with live bunker. Bunker spoon trolling is also producing very well in these same areas. The surf fisherman at South Beach are fishing for blues in the early morning and evening with cut bait. This same location is producing striped bass during the daytime with swimmers and also with poppers and metal. Black and fluke fishing reports are minimal as people do not seem to want to go fishing when all this bass and blue action is occuring. Blue claw crabs are still in abundance. Lenny says that the area is loaded with bunker, sand eels, spearing and other baits so come on down and get the fishing while it is there.

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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

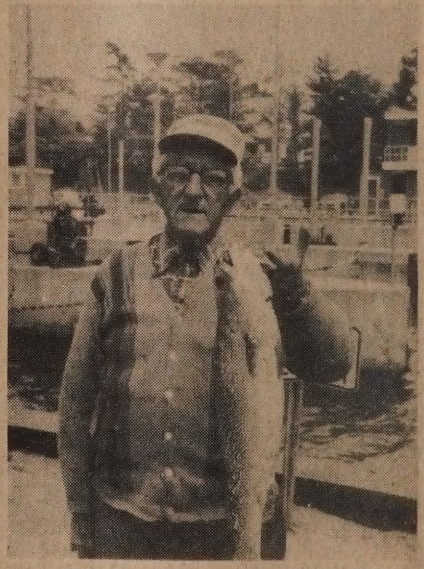
ORIENT POINT

Orient By The Sea Marina reports that a friend of Bob Reilly took a 50 pound striped bass from Plum Gut. He fished Saturday Night using a bucktail and pork rind. There are lots of blackfish at the north side of Gardiner's Island. Most are 1½ to 2 pounds but there are lots of them.

GREENPORT

A.P. White's Bait Shop said that the night weakfishing has been excellent for the **Wilhelric** and the **Brand X**. Saturday was slow for these boats due to the extreme amount of small boats fishing the area. Sunday was pretty good for the porgies. For the other fishermen, east of Gardiner's Island by Greenhills there are plenty of sea bass and blacks. Gull and Plum Island also have a good quantity of blackfish. Bucktailing in the Gut on Sunday produced loads of striped bass many in the 30's.

The **Pooka V** happily informs us of fantastic night weakfishing at Middle Grounds on Tauts tipped with squid. Captain Dave Green is running these super trips, so give him a shout and you'll load up. Dave also took an 11 pound 14 ounce fluke on Thursday while weakfishing. The **Pooka V** is now going for sea bass and blacks daytime and weekends.



Jack Turco of Hampton Bays shows five pound weakfish caught from shore at Cow Neck on Peconic Bay. Subscriber Club Photo.

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Robert Untener of Hempstead took 6 bass up to 24 pounds and 1 bluefish of 12 pounds at Sandy Hook on Danny plugs and Almighty Squid while fishing aboard the "Kim".

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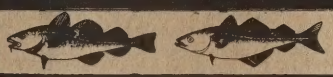

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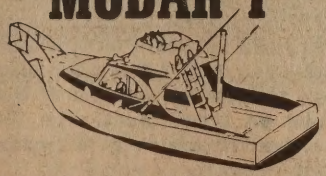

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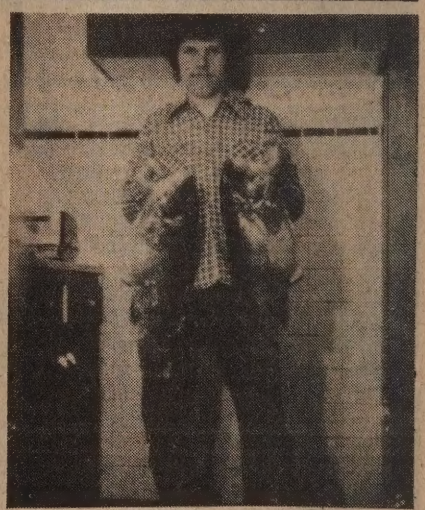

Bob Long caught these two blackfish surfcasting near Crane Neck Point on green crabs. The Fish weighed 10 and 9 lbs. Subscriber Club Photo.

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SOUTHOLD

Dot at **Southold Fishing Sation** said that there was a little bit of everything going on. Porgies were at buoys 17 and 18, the Windmill and the Brickyard. These were taken on worms and clams. Blackfish were scattered but they were hitting on fiddler and green crabs as well as worms and clams. Bluefish were being taken on cut bait in numerous places on the bottom while fishing for bottom species. Flounders are at a minimal right now.

NEW SUFFOLK

Captain Marty's Fishing Station reports slow fishing this weekend due to the winds. Porgy fishing wasn't too bad with some boats coming in with 300.

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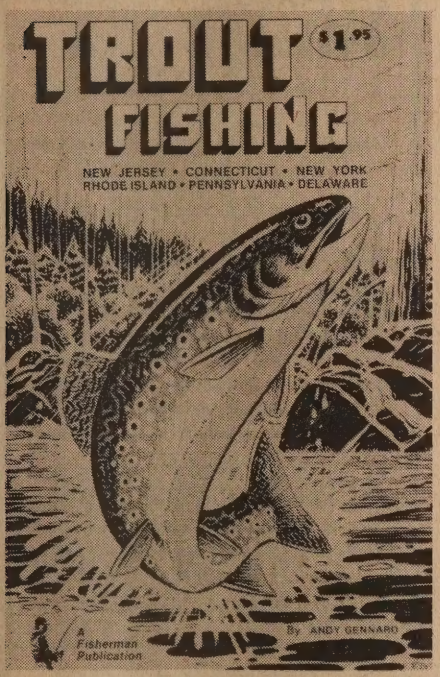

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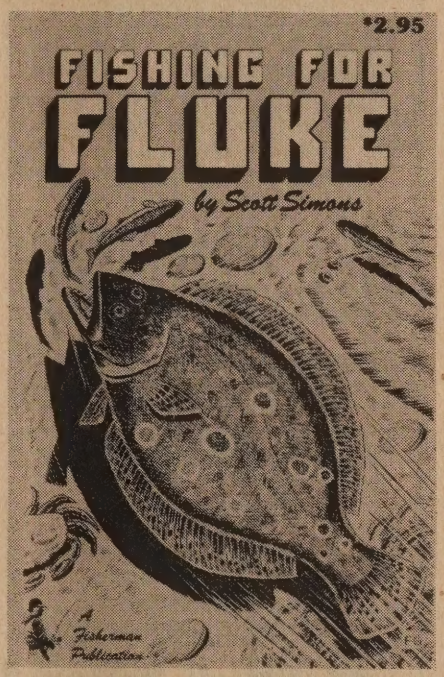

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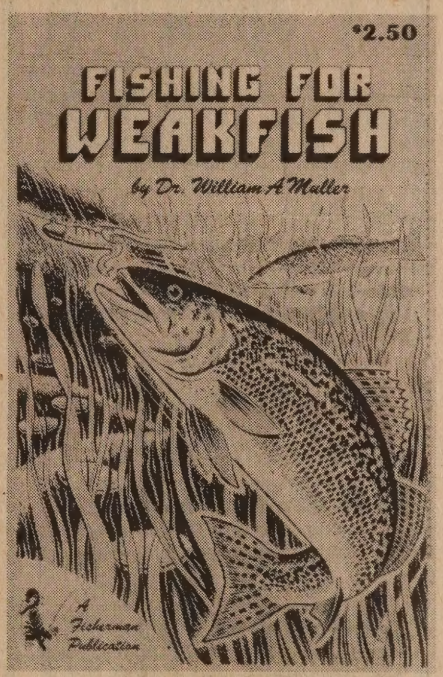

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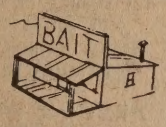

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JAMESPORT

Frank at **Jamesport Bait and Tackle** said the fishing was rather slow this past week. There are blues and weaks if you want them and according to Frank can be taken one way only. He advises to troll very slowly a sinking Rebel in the area from Laurel to Flanders. Blues of 3 to 5 pounds with some going to 10 and weaks the smallest of which is 6 pounds also going to 10 are being taken here. Frank says you can fish these any tide. Some blacks are being taken along with a few porgies and most of this fishing is in the Sound.

ROCKY POINT

Patricia at **Nick's Bait and Tackle** said that the blackfish are getting smaller. They are now down to around 5 and 6 pounds. (That's small?) They are being taken on fiddlers and green crabs or fresh skimmers. Some weaks have been taken on a hi-hook rig with clam by some anglers fishing blind. Two were caught with an eye ball estimate of weight in excess of weight of 6 pounds. More and more porgies are being taken from the beach and a good run can be expected soon. Striped bass fishing reports have been at a minimum but not for the want of trying. Several have been out with live eels and have had little success.

This 7½ pound weakfish was taken by 11 year old Peter Schultz off Crescent Beach on a Salty Dog tipped with squid. Photo courtesy of Glen Cove Sports Shop.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Dick's Sporting Goods reports blackfishing and porgies are both fair. They are being taken on crabs or clams. A few striped bass have been taken on green crabs while blackfishing from the beach. These range from 7 to 12 pounds. Fluke have also been taken from the beach using natural baits but just a few have been taken.

PORT JEFFERSON

Ken from **Angler's Den** in Selden reports fair porgy fishing and black fishing at Rocky Point. More and more fluke are showing along the beaches from Cedar Beach eastward and inside Mount Sinai Harbor. In Port Jeff Harbor, there are blues of 3 to 6 pounds. Conscience Bay has weaks from 5 to 8 pounds while fishing for striped bass with Red Fins or sandworms. Ken says there are bunker and other bait in the harbor.

Captain John Fischer said both the **Betty W** and the **Janet C** had fair to good blackfishing over the weekend. This is with sea bass mixed in and some nice flujke. On Saturday the **Janet C** was sailing as an open boat and did as well as the **Betty W** sailing with the Parodise Fishing Club of Ozone Park. Saturday pool winner was a 14 pound black.

NORTHPORT

Pete at **Larkfield Sports Center** said a few weaks were taken at Norwood Beach using pink shrimp lures with squid. Blacks are good at Eaton's Neck using green crabs. Some of these go to 8 or 9 pounds. Casting with small creek chub

Gail Cross, 9, with the 3½ lb. blackfish she caught along with some porgies and other blacks off Mattinecock Point.

poppera on the beach side of the Coast Guard Station has brought in striped bass to pounds.

HUNTINGTON

Captain Pete of the **Ever Ready** reports the fishing slowed on the weekend for blacks. A few fluke of 3 to 4 pounds have been taken while blackfishing. Lots of bunker have been breaking.

Ronnie's Bait and Tackle said that fishing in general has been off. Just a few blacks, porgies and weaks have been taken. More and more fluke are being caught with some up to 3½ pounds.

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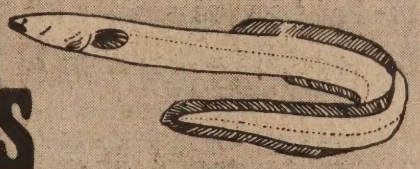

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Danny Gabbamonte with an 12 lb. 8 oz. largemouth caught March 1976 in Lake George, Florida. Subscriber Club Photo.

Eaton's Neck and Marshall Field drifting with squid strips has taken them. Those who had worms to troll for striped bass did well at Marshall Field. Ronnie said Dave Roberts of Huntington took a 23 pound bass on Thursday night on worms. You can also try the Eelet or the Alee eel lures. On Friday big striped bass were live lined with the bunker during the day at the Cold Spring Harbor Causeway.

Ron Leonardi of the **Glen Cove Fishing Station** in his boat the "Fish Hawk" caught 3-5 pound blues in mid-Sound off Eaton's Neck. These scattered blues were taken on cut bait while striped bass fishing. On Sunday he fished at Eaton's Neck for blacks. He caught a good quantity of them from 1 to 4 pounds using fiddler crabs.

PORT WASHINGTON

Moreland's Bait and Tackle reports blacks of 5 to 9 pounds with smaller and larger fish being taken at most rocky areas. Chumming with mussels or clam is a must along with worms, which are best or fiddler and green crabs. Striped bass were taken on baits at several of the points. Wade Denning had a 32 pounder, Lee Smith had a 22 pounder and Lou Andowski had a 17 pounder. Big schools of macks were seen n Sunday.

CITY ISLAND

John's Gun and Tackle in the Bronx said the blackfishing was way off. Porgies are showing but no one seems to be trying for them as there was no bait. Striped bass are being taken in the early morning or evening. Try poppers or Rebel swimmers at Harts Island and along the New Rochelle shore. These bass are schoolies to 10 pounds.

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STOP POLLUTION!

SCIENCE OF FLUKE FISHING
(Continued from page 11.)

the hook after the snell has been tightened. Then pass this excess line through the eye of the second "stinger" hook and slide up to the top hook so that you have a little room to work. Then tie any kind of knot that is larger than the eye of the hook into the leader at least five inches below the first or top hook that is permanently attached to the leader. The large knot acts to prevent the hook from sliding off the end of the leader, but allows the hook to slide freely on the line so that the distance between the two hooks may be adjusted according to the size of the strip bait or baitfish. At the opposite end of the leader, tie an end loop with a diameter of one inch and attach it to the dropper loop of the basic fluke rig as previously described. A variation of the rig is to snell the stinger hook to the leader permanently, then snell the top hook to the line above it with a separate piece of leader so that it can be slipped along the leader to adjust the distance for each bait length. This method is popular in New Jersey.

FLY-TACKLE FOR SALT
(Continued from page 23.)

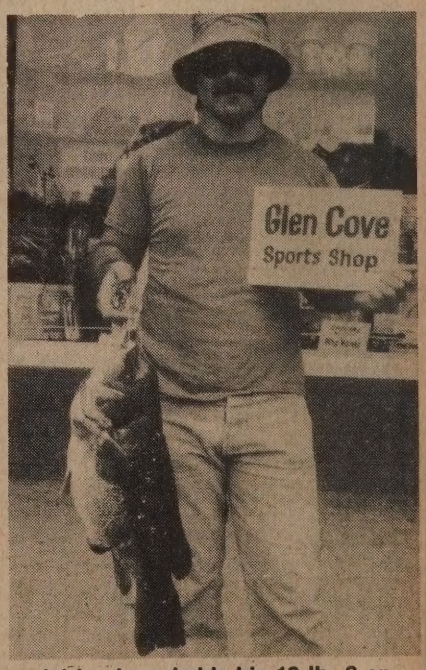
weeds, etc. as the hook rides upright behind the tied hair or feathers.

Fly patterns are as varied as plug patterns, but for the best compromise, I would recommend stocking fly length increments from 1½ inch through 5 inches in the more popular patterns. Try to match the color tone and length of the bait fish in your fishing locale. Some of the more productive patterns are as follows: Lefty's Deceiver, Gibbs Striper Fly, Double Blonde Series, McNalley Smelt Fly, Tabory's Sand Eel and Grass Shrimp or squid imitators. If you have ever attempted to tie fresh water flies and become discouraged, try salt water flies; you will find them much larger and easier to tie. Another helpful book relating to fly tackle if you are interested in tying your own flies is "Salt Water Flies" by Kenneth Bay, and features clear, concise, close-up photos showing the steps in tying flies. Pattern descriptions of almost all salt water types are included.

Additional salt water fly information can be obtained by joining the "Salt-water Fly Rodders of America", who are specialists on this type of fishing. Charters are located in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Rhode Island, among other states.

Many new and interesting ideas on tackle, methods of fishing, are initiated and discussed between members. These groups are really devoted to advancing the sport. The New York Chapter is located in Astoria, Queens, under the guidance of President Lou Rossi and staff, and is presently open to new interested fishermen. The monthly meetings held throughout the year are usually announced in this magazine. Fly tying, trips, movies, lectures and friendly discussions are always prevalent at the regular meetings.

So, put your heavy tackle aside, increase your fishing pleasure and try this method of fishing. After correcting some initial mistakes, possibly losing a few fish at the beginning, you will gradually become adept to this method and find your ensuing fishing trips both thrilling and rewarding.



Adrian Levy holds his 12 lb. 2 oz. blackfish that he took at the Hempstead Breakwater on skimmer clam. Photo courtesy of Glen Cove Sports Shop.

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HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR	6:52	7:21	7:31	8:00	7:28	7:53	8:24	8:42	10:43	10:56	10:22	10:40	6:43	7:09	6/10
FRI	7:45	8:09	8:27	8:53	8:23	8:44	9:16	9:34	11:38	11:49	11:15	11:33	7:36	8:01	6/11
SAT	8:35	8:58	9:21	9:43	9:16	9:35	10:09	10:24	—	12:30	—	12:06	8:27	8:50	6/12
SUN	9:26	9:45	10:13	10:35	10:10	10:26	11:00	11:13	12:39	1:21	12:23	12:57	9:17	9:40	6/13
MON	10:17	10:34	11:05	11:24	11:03	11:18	11:53	—	1:30	2:11	1:13	1:46	10:08	10:27	6/14
TUE	11:08	11:22	11:57	—	11:59	—	12:04	12:44	2:16	2:59	2:02	2:34	10:58	11:17	6/15
WED	11:58	—	12:15	12:50	12:11	12:50	12:57	1:37	3:07	3:49	2:53	3:25	11:49	—	6/16
THUR	12:11	12:48	1:05	1:43	1:01	1:39	1:50	2:32	3:57	4:40	3:43	4:15	12:07	12:39	6/17

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	— 0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	— 0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	— 0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	— 0 12
Seaside Park	— 0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	— 0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	— 0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	— 0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	— 0 02
Rehoboth Beach	— 0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	— 0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	— 0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	— 0 38
Democrat Point	— 0 38
Coast Guard Station	— 0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	— 0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	— 0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	— 0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	— 0 08
Herod Point	— 0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	— 0 20
Truman Beach	— 0 42
Falkner Island	— 0 13
Sachem Head	— 0 10
Branford Harbor	— 0 07
New Haven Harbor	— 0 08
Milford Harbor	— 0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	— 0 03
Saugatuck River	— 0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	— 0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	— 0 14
Montauk Inlet	— 0 25
Montauk Point	— 1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	— 0 33
Noank, Mystic River	— 0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	— 0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	— 0 10
Execution Light	— 0 06
Manhasset Bay	— 0 01
Hempstead Harbor	— 0 11
City Island	— 0 03
Rye Beach	— 0 28
Port Chester	— 0 09
Mamaroneck	— 0 08
New Rochelle	— 0 24
Davids Island	— 0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	— 0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	— 0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	— 0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	— 0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	— 0 08
Point Judith Harbor	— 0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	— 0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

6/4	5:25	8:32
6/9	5:24	8:35
6/14	5:23	8:37
6/19	5:24	8:39
6/24	5:25	8:40

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
6/27	6/5	6/12	6/19

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
THURS.	3:15	**10:00**	3:45	**10:30**
FRI.	4:10	**10:55**	4:45	**11:25**
SAT.	5:05	**11:50**	5:40	—
SUN.	6:00	**12:20**	6:35	**12:50**
MON.	7:00	**1:30**	7:30	**1:50**
TUES.	8:05	**2:20**	8:30	**2:50**
WED.	9:05	**3:15**	9:25	**3:40**
THURS.	9:55	**4:10**	10:20	**4:30**

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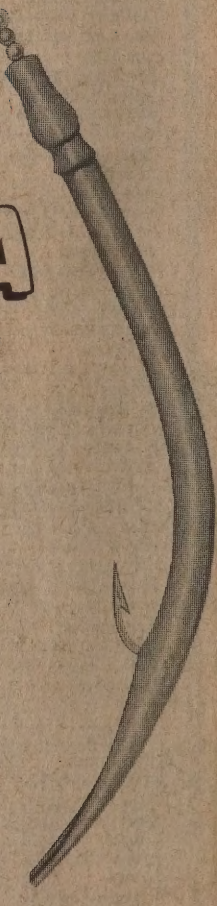

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